

**Course:** Poli Sci 2H03

**Subject:** Borders, Security, and Global Migration

**Instructor:** Dr. Vermilyea

**Section:** Evening, T01

**Date:** Nov. 21, 2012

**Salter Paper (Passports, Mobility, and Security: How Smart can the Border Be?)**

- Intertwining logic of security and mobility
  - Especially with migration
- Even before 9/11 there was screening at borders
- References increasing notions of security problems not just being "out there"
  - Usually can locate 'enemies' outside of our society
  - We are increasingly seeing security threats within our society
- In principle, everyone has a basic right to mobility
  - Dangers of mobility include: security threats, crime, political/cultural threats, health and disease
- Passports only lets us know who the bearer is and where we can expel them to
  - Other than that, there isn't much of a function, he argues
- Each passport should have a name, nationality, signature, space for visa permits, etc.
- Passports must be replicable in form, so that they are recognized easily, but unique to identify individuals/states
- Biometrics
  - Facial prints, hand geometry, retinal identification
  - Helps to identify bearers
  - Machine-readable information wasn't as prevalent before 9/11
- Contemporary security themes
  - Since a lot of terrorists, criminals, or illegals aren't precisely known, they couldn't be tied to any terrorist organizations
    - Increasingly see border agents look for risky traits/populations
      - Significant shift in policy
  - Border security has shifted from examination of travelers to the surveillance of the general mobile population
- Delocalization of borders
  - Instead of simply understanding the separation from the physical border of the state to the outside world, we are seeing border policing/checkpoints happening before the migrants are within state jurisdiction
    - Border is being spread out to local and international aspects
- Homeland security
  - Tied to themes in paper of general coordination of security agencies and databases
  - New smart border
    - Digital images
    - Increasing uses of biometric technologies
- Racial profiling of high-risk individuals
  - Greater surveillance of people once inside the country
  - Transition of use of language from 'undesirable' to high-risk
    - 'undesirable' indicates a certain type of knowledge about the individual
    - When we say 'high-risk,' this indicates no specific knowledge of threat
      - Suspicions based on statistics, sociology, and narratives

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- War on terror is fundamentally different from war between states
  - Given messages that threat is everyone instead of one, bordered place
- Migration integrity officers
  - Agents located in foreign states to gain local information on high-risk people coming into the country
    - This is especially done for human smuggling operations
  - There are 55 of these agents in 45 locations
  - Primary aim is to work with local authorities to train them to identify these people
- Failure of US border security regimes can't be solved at borders themselves
  - 9/11 failure was failure of intelligence
  - Only way to increase intelligence is to restrict personal freedom
    - How much are individuals willing to be searched and examined to gain a degree of security?
  - Passports can't reveal intentions
- Proposing national identity card for all Americans using smartchip technology
  - Increased security results in larger bureaucratic apparatus

#### **Adamson Paper (Crossing Borders: International Migration and National Security)**

- Since 9/11, migration has increasingly been tied up to security concerns
  - Whether it's refugees, immigrants, etc.
- Must be careful in suggesting a clean break between pre- and post-9/11 era
  - Always interest between globalization, migration, and security
- Migration is intensified with globalization
  - Trade, finance, and increased transnational connections results in a more mobile labour population
    - e.g., citizens in the EU can work in any member country
  - Can't separate migration from international trade, finance, and production
    - These global processes facilitate the greater globalization of migration
- Different types of migration

#### **Canada's immigration policy system**

- Official discourse of Canadian immigration policy frames migration as efficient and effective
- Introduction of points system
  - Selects the most qualified and desired immigrants
    - Based on education, occupation, and investment potential
- Categories for legal entrance into Canada
  - Temporary residence
    - Students on a temporary student visa
    - Seasonal/migrant worker
    - Most vulnerable status class
    - 4 categories: foreign workers, foreign students, humanitarian claimants (refugees), and other

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- Can be domestic workers, agricultural workers, and highly skilled workers
- Any person that enters as a temporary immigrant carries a precarious status
  - Absence of following elements associated with permanent residence and citizenship in Canada: work authorization, right to remain permanently in the country, not depending on a third party for the right to remain in the country (i.e., sponsorship)
- Family sponsorship
- Immigration as a skilled worker/professional
  - Based on point system
- Immigration as an investor/entrepreneur
- Entry as a non-resident/tourist/visitor
  - Might require a visa
- Precarious status is an important discussion topic for Canadian migration laws