

Critique

Mexican undocumented aliens are and will continue to be a presence in the United States. This proposal cites a 1972 study of an estimated eight million illegal aliens in this country, a figure that has climbed sharply since that date. Positive contributions toward improving the living and working situations of this population are, therefore, necessary and important.

Salcido has incorporated useful research into the proposal and then has extended this to a model for social workers to use on behalf of their Mexican clients. There does need to be, however, in order to clarify the functions of advocacy, a sharper delineation made in the material between single alien needs and those of family units and between rural and urban population problems.

Another contribution Salcido could make is to implement the pro-advocacy position with a pamphlet or written format designed for workers in this field: students training to become social workers; social workers already employed by social service institutions; and community activists. While this format need not be as ambitious as, say, Judy Katz's *White Awareness: A Handbook for Anti-Racism Training* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1978), it could include specific strategies, exercises, even simulation games, as well as lists of available materials and services. A manual or handbook for use in the classroom or workshop, or in other appropriate situations, would lead to greater knowledge and understanding by the social worker of the particular needs and problems of the target population. One cannot underestimate the resistance or inertia of institutions to the advocacy concept, and the "Proposed Model" thus extended could be a strong agent for change.

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