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Effects of Separation on the Immigrant Family

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Effects of Separation on the Immigrant Family

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Grand Island Senior High 2021

University of Nebraska- Lincoln

Abstract:

In the United States of America, deportation has always been an issue, becoming a greater issue in today's society. Deportation can be defined as a lawful expulsion of a person from a country. Many families have come to the U.S. in the hope of a brighter and better future, but that is not always the case. Constantly running in fear of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), they struggle to survive in a land of unknown. What many people do not know are the reasons why families come to the U.S and the effects deportation has on children when they are separated from their families. Those separated from their family suffer mentally throughout their lifetime.



<https://www.communitypsychology.com/infograph-effects-of-deportation/>

Conclusion and Discussion:

Many immigrants migrate to the U.S. in need of a better future for both themselves and their children. Some migrate because of a life-threatening situation and need a new home. But as they cross the border into the U.S. and expand their roots and history they have the constant fear of ICE. The fear of being caught and deported back to their former homeland is what they deal with every day. Not only will it negatively affect the individual but cause the children being separated from their parents to go through pain and suffering affecting their future and lifetime.

Key Points:

- Intensified immigration enforcement, particularly at the local and state levels, has been responsible for roughly 1.8 million deportations between 2009 and 2013 alone.
- Once both parents have been captured the child will “face the possibility of being left in their home country with an unfamiliar caretaker or being forced to depart the United States with their parents to countries, languages, and cultures that they may never have known.”
- Children experienced behavioral changes in eating and sleeping habits, and emotional changes such as increased crying, anxiety, anger, aggression, withdrawal, and a heightened sense of fear.

Reference:

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- Zayas, L. H., & Bradley, M. H. (2014). Exiling children, creating orphans: When immigration policies hurt citizens. *Social Work*, 59(2), 167–175. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swu004>

