Name

Instructor

Course

Date

**21st Century Jewish Immigration**

**Introduction**

The Jewish society is described as a special group of individuals defined by a certain symbolic belief based on religion, culture, ethnicity, or linguistic among many others. In the awake of the 21st century, United States of America emerged as the third Jewish population center characterized with a population of about one million Jews. It was then speculated that in the 21st century, a large number of migrating Jews were destined to settle in United States of America. This massive transfer of population immediately changed the nature of the Jews located in America. It restructured the geographical distribution and composition of the American population as a whole leading to a wide concentration of Jews in the East Coast cities where the number of Jews was minimal. The United States of America is widely known for to be a destined country for immigrants.

America from its day of independence attracted numerous people from across the globe as a nation with social, religious, and political freedom. People across the world view America as a country full of economic opportunity since it has no legal barriers to social affairs and territory mobility. The largest number of individuals who entered America in the 21st century were Protestants. The ultimate reason for the immigration was religious barriers. The main branches of protestants who entered United States of America are Christians and Jews. Jews were at the center of the process of migration in the 21st century because they were running away from religious persecutions (Most 314). The best alternative country of destination was United States of America.

In this paper, we are going to give a well-elaborated history of Jewish immigration in the 21st century. The paper will focus on United States of America since essential historical push factors depict that America is the country of immigration in the 21st century due to compelling factors outlined above. Several essential elements experience of Jewish during migration, however, receive little attention in this text. A closer picture that sheds light on the complex nature of Jewish immigration process to America in the 21st century will be unraveled.

**Immigration of Jews Into U.S.A**

The Jewish immigration wave occurred in three essential stages. The first stage of the wave was seen at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century mainly from Russia and Europe. This was termed as the “new immigration”. New immigration was generally characterized by the mass movement of people from southern Europe and Russia to the shore of America. The ethnic composition of the new slave consisted of mainly Jews and Italians along with a number of slaves. According to the history, the ultimate aim of the Jewish immigration process was the absence of guarantees of right and freedom to life and property.

The second stage of the wave was depicted in 1945 to 1947 where survivors of the Second World War were channeled to concentration camps. The Jewish community faced hostility in the World War II as Hitler’s armies were aiming at minimizing the Jewish community located in Europe (Most 412). With the total massive destruction of Jewish centers in Europe, the Jewsish community turned to the United States of America for help and support since America was considered to be politically powerful and economically rich. In 1948, there was American established a declaration to support Jews in the state of Israel making it a symbol of unity with the Jewish immigrant in located in America.

The third wave which is considered to be the latest trend of Jewish immigration started at in the onset of the 21st century. Thousands of Jews entered United States of America under liberal immigration policies that had been earlier gained between Israel and America with an aim of safeguarding the Jewish bloodline.

**Reasons For Immigration Into the United States**

There are various factors that undermined the Jewish immigration process in the 21st century. The absence of the right and freedom to life was the first ultimate reason for the Jews to relocate to United States of America. Jews had no religious freedom. America assumed the global responsibility affairs making Jews follow through. Under the rights and freedom, religious freedom was the key factor that impacted on Jews. They were running away from religious persecutions due to the anti-protestant and anti-Semitism in Russia and Europe in general. Religion was an essential subject of concern that needed to be addressed since it complicated the idea of United States of America granting religious tolerance to any person across the globe who faces religious persecution. The dynamics of the immigration process widely depended on the policies of United States that granted its citizen the right and freedom to religion and property. This factor greatly influenced the immigration process.

The second factor that led to the immigration of Jews to America was economic factors. America was considered to be the hub for economic power in the onset of the 21st century. In the perspective of Jews regarding the economic opportunities, United States of America had no social affair barriers and mobility territories that made the economy stumble. Jewish areas were characterized by harsh economic experiences that led to hunger and starvation. Jews decided to relocate to America in search for a better education and greener pasture (Foner 218). The emergence of the communal order of the American Jews emphasized economic and political liberalism in America with an aim of minimizing immigration of Jews into United States of America. This was supplemented by the treaty that was signed between America and Israel with an objective of minimizing immigration of Jews into United States of America

Political structure was the third undermining factor that led to the immigration of Jews. Numerous political changes seen in various countries after the Second World War intensified the immigration process. It was intensified because of the territory orientation and nation structure of migration flows. A clear and concise example of a political change of events was when United Stated came in to salvage Jews from the brutal hands of the Germans. When America decided to stand by Israel, it changed all the political policy shape of both countries so as to allow a given number of Jews to enter the United States. Up to today, Jews account for over 2% of the American population since most of the Jews were allowed into United States of America as a practice of the safeguarding international diplomatic political interest.

**Characteristic of Jewish Immigration**

There is a successful intriguing connection that exists between United State historical demography and Jewish population genetics. When we attempt to unravel essential information on the ever changing size and geographical distribution of Jewish population located in United States of America, we tend to analyze the observed mutation of the immigration process so as to draw accurate notions. It is worth to comment that Jews settled in the largest cities in the East Coast where the natural way of life was deeply rooted to commerce opportunities and individuals living side by side with a diverse religious background. The tenement cities were referred to as “ghettoes”. Many Jews settled in this demography due to the fact that it was a common place where Jews were living. A large number of Jewish immigrants worked in a burgeoning garment firm and other industrial sectors mostly owned by descendants of the early wave of immigration from Central Europe (Foner 314). Most immigrants who arrived in the United States of America in the verge of the 21st century were commonly used by fellow Jews who earlier settled in America as unskilled workers.

Jewish Immigrants became an essential niche in the society. They were able to adapt and embrace the new cultural norms of America. Immigrants were successfully embraced into the American society. The American community was not defined or dictated by ethnicity but the ability to adhere to the declaration of the right and freedom of life and property. The associational approach of the American cultural beliefs typically reflects a social order that is dictated by chosen affiliation rather than heritage and cultural believes. The American society has changed Jew’s perspective of life leading to a renewed attitude towards culture. Americans do not think of themselves tied to anything by faith or birth. This notion is based on the process of modernization. Through this process, new Jewish immigrants of the 1st century have replaced their association approach with the characteristic of Americans’ view. Just like Americans, Jews are affiliated with various organizations that reinforce them through the creation of a network that binds them together with Americans to form a community. The associations have eradicated Jewish believes of personal affiliation to cultural heritage. This has enabled the American Jews of the 21st century to achieve a social and legal status that allows them to merge into the larger American society without complication. A clear example is the adoption of the use of English as their major media for communication. Yiddish was their native language of communication. This shows the level of their interest and dedication as part of the American larger community. This change in culture was also depicted in the manner in which women from the Jewish community were treated. They were offered renewed responsibility of participating in various skills related occupations as related to the Jewish religion where women were branded with roles that surrounded house chores. Until now, gender expectations of the Jewish immigrants have been shifted in accordance with the American policies.

**Challenges of the Immigration Process**

It is transparent that the Jewish American association encountered sets of substantial issues in the maintenance of individuals who have deeply rooted civilization in the public mind but to minimized to religious notions at the personal level. Jewish American immigrants were greatly impacted on by the fact that there was a drift among them in regards to the national social status. A huge number of Jewish immigrants abandoned Judaism while others argued that complete emancipation would be properly achieved through national revival of Judaism in America (Buhle 94). Through advocating of Peoplehood, the group wanted to shape the life of American Jews emphasizing not only the religious aspect but westernization characteristics. An increase in the number of immigrants entering United States of America changed the composition of the American population since people from other countries were destined to reach America.

The need to allow Jewish heritage practices to be absorbed by the American community cultivated controversial discussions because America was not a home for Jews alone but other religious groups. Challenges faced by the Jewish immigrants were universal since it affected all the individuals located in America. Controlling immigration is not the ultimate solution since immigrants will often find dubious methods of penetrating into the United States of America. What will transform the immigration process is whether an individual is accepted or embraced by the society at large.

This was the first unintended social and religious consequence that undermined the immigration process of the 21st century. With a large number of immigrants streaming into the United States of America, this was a key issue of concern.

The sweeping demographic configuration of the United States of American social affair landscape was the greatest threat to the Jewish immigrants in America streaming from the huge wave of immigration from the Islamic states. The September 11 attack on the American soil was the hand on experience that made the Jewish immigration policy supported by the Peoplehood to appear irrational, and self-destructive. Large-scale Muslim immigration into America from states with political ideologies that compel Muslims across the universe was a destructive move (Keely 72). Muslim immigrants were anti-western. They rejected the American method of ruling together with their cultural norms. According to the Muslim immigrants, gaining political, intellectual, cultural, and social independence was the only way to freedom from the westernization. In Muslim immigrant’s perspective, democratic governance had failed its citizens making them victims of corrupt systems and abusive socio-economic power. Muslim immigrants had two expressions in respect to the American policies; one which advocates for secure America through adoption of the American policies, while the other that pioneers gradual consolidation of socio-economic and political propaganda through the ideology of violence with the aim of destruction. Most of the immigrants were linked to the extreme Islamic terrorism organizations. Just like the Jewish immigrants, Muslim immigrants claimed to be in defence of Islam meaning that other religions were regarded as the cultural, economic, political, and religious enemy.

Racism was another key issue of concern depicted in the 21st century. Racism has been a global phenomenon that affects all countries that permit immigrants. Just like any other place where individuals at their reduced level are rooted in a certain cultural heritage, America was facing racism. In the 21st century, America has permitted entry of Muslim immigrant into their country. This has brought racism based on the 9/11 in America. Jewish immigrants just like Muslims are treated with much sensitivity. Individuals wearing hijabs are criticized leading to breakage of the social network. Social status promoted unity through the American dream of unity. Most of the perceptions of old Jewish immigrants about new immigrants (consisting of Jews and Muslims among many others) are based on prejudice and ignorance, therefore, eradicating the American notion of maintaining normal social network through standardization of various underlying issues.

**Conclusion**

Based on the Jewish Immigration into the United States of America, there is massive historical trends and evidence that immigration policies on immigration control are not a key issue but social integration of immigrants and their underlying descendants (Buhle 134). Increase in immigration impacts on the social composition of a nation disrupting the social status of a community. With a transparent example of the Jewish immigration into America, request by the Jewish organization “peoplehood” to incorporate Jewish national heritage in the American norm disrupted the social status. This is because immigrants from other religion also wanted their practices to be embraced. The need to allow Jewish heritage practices to be absorbed by the American community was a controversial topic because America was not a home for Jews alone but other religious groups. After infiltration of a huge number of Muslim immigrants into the United States of America, the issue of social status became a problem that swept across all people living in America.

Challenges faced by the Jewish immigrants were universal since it affected all the parties involved. Controlling immigration is not the ultimate solution since immigrants will often find crocked methods of penetrating into the United States of America. What will transform the immigration process is whether an individual is accepted or embraced by the society at large. In the context of the Jewish immigrant in America, the United States of American society embraced only individual who were not defined by ethical means but by personal declaration to adhere to the American idea of right and freedom to life. The idea of what it entails to be an American citizen evolved in respect to the Jewish immigration waves. Awareness on these immigration patterns based on the Jewish immigration to America assists in projecting the upcoming events of migration so as to implement right risk mitigation procedures.

Works Cited

Keely, Charles. 1979. U.S. Immigration: A Policy Analysis. New York: The Population Council.

Most, Andrea. 2004. Making Americans: Jews and the Broadway Musical. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Foner, Nancy. 2000. From Ellis Island to JFK: New York’s Two Great Waves of Immigration. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Buhle, Paul. 2004. From the Lower East Side to Hollywood. London: Verso.