



KEY TERMS & CONCEPTS POLICIES

Undocumented: Describes individuals who are in the US with no lawful immigration status. They either entered the US without a visa or legal documentation or they overstayed the terms of their status and remained in the US without authorization.

Illegal: Term commonly used by media to describe immigrants without legal status. Since 2017, this term is promoted among conservative policy-makers and conservative thought leaders. The immigrant community greatly disapproves the use of this term, arguing that actions are “illegal” not individuals themselves. This term further perpetuates stereotypes of immigrants as lawbreakers, foreigners, and a burden on society. It undermines the complex experience of undocumented immigrants. Being undocumented is not an actual crime; it is a civil misdemeanor, but there are efforts to further criminalize it with anti-immigrant legislation.

DACA: An abbreviation for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals federal program for certain eligible undocumented youth. Recipients are protected from being deported from the country. The program also gives recipients work authorization and ability to apply for a social security number. The program does not grant recipients lawful status or provide a pathway to obtain lawful status; recipients remain undocumented. It is a temporary program and was discontinued by this Administration in September 2017. Approval expires after two years and is subject to renewal. As of 2019: due to delayed court proceedings, DACA renewals have been continued but no new applications are accepted.

DACA-mented: Common term used to describe undocumented youth whose DACA application has been approved. A common phrase used is: “I am DACA-mented.”

DACA RENEWAL: DACA approval is not permanent; DACA recipients must re-apply for approval before they reach the completion of the two year approval period (up to 150 days in advance). Important to know, DACA recipients are eligible for renewal even if they are already over 31 (you cannot age out of the system) and have graduated or are studying at a different school or program.

ADVANCE PAROLE: See [Travel Abroad for Undocumented Students for information](#) about advance parole.

SELECTIVE SERVICE: Generally, almost all males (citizens and non-citizens) living in the United States who are between the ages of 18 and 26 are required to register with the Selective Service. Non-U.S. citizens, such as undocumented individuals, legal permanent residents (LPRs), asylum applicants, refugees, and DACA recipients are all required to register with the Selective Service.

U-VISA: May be granted to immigrants who have been the victims of certain types of crimes, including : domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, etc. If granted, victims of certain crimes are given temporary legal status and work eligibility for up to 4 years and must cooperate with law enforcement in their investigation of the crime(s). U-Visas are non-immigrant visas and only 10,000 are granted each year; recipients are still able to qualify for CA Dream Act and may apply for a green card (permanent residence) after meeting certain criteria.

T-VISA: The T nonimmigrant visa may be granted to people who are or have been victims of human trafficking. Recipients (and immediate family) are allowed to remain and work in the U.S if they agree to assist law enforcement with their investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases. T-visa recipients are still able to qualify for CA Dream Act and may apply for a green card (permanent residence) after meeting certain criteria.

AB 540: A California Assembly Bill passed in 2001 that allows eligible undocumented youth in California to pay for in-state tuition in public colleges (UCs, CSUs, CCCs). Many students in California replace the term undocumented with AB 540. Students will commonly say, “I am an AB 540 student,” both within and outside the school context to describe their status. However, it is important to note that not all AB 540 students are undocumented. About half of the population of AB 540 students in UC Berkeley is not undocumented. Also, not all undocumented students qualify for AB 540 benefits.

- **SB 68** was passed in 2017 that broadens the definition of AB 540 eligibility. It allows attendance at California community colleges, adult school, and K-12 to count towards the required three years of California attendance. Additionally, high school diploma (or equivalent), AA degree from California Community College, or minimum UC/CSU transfer requirements satisfy the requirement.

CA DREAM Act: Collectively, Assembly Bills AB 130 and 131 are known as the CA DREAM Act. This legislation provides financial aid to eligible undocumented students in California public colleges. To be eligible, the student must qualify for AB 540 among other criteria.

- AB 130 allows undocumented youth to receive private college funds
- AB 131 allows undocumented youth to receive state financial aid

This legislation does not grant legal status, provide a path to citizenship, or any other benefits outside of financial aid to students

CA DREAM ACT APPLICATION: Undocumented students who are AB540 eligible must complete a CA DREAM ACT Application (California’s version of the FAFSA) each year in order to be eligible to receive financial aid.

Federal DREAM Act: The DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) is a federal legislation first introduced in the US Senate in 2001. This legislation would provide a path to legalization for eligible undocumented youth across the nation. In 2010, the DREAM Act failed to pass by just a few votes in the Senate. In 2013, the DREAM Act was included in Comprehensive Immigration Reform, which passed in the Senate but not the House. In 2018, multiple immigration bills included many versions of the DREAM Act to provide a “DACA fix” for undocumented students, but bipartisan efforts were undermined and the legislation did not come to fruition.

Sanctuary City: is a term that is applied by some to cities in the United States that have policies designed to not prosecute undocumented immigrants or cities that do not have collaborate with ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) to prosecute undocumented immigrants. Historically, some institutions, particularly churches, have served as sanctuary for immigrants who are persecuted.

- In 2017, California recently passed legislation to become a sanctuary state (**SB 54**, de Leon). Coined the “**California Values Act**”, it provides essential safeguards: “safe zones” in California schools, health facilities, public libraries, and courthouses; limitations on law enforcement by prohibiting law enforcement agencies from using resources to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest people.

Priority Enforcement Program (PEP): The Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Priority Enforcement Program (PEP) enables DHS to work with state and local law enforcement to take custody of individuals who pose a danger to public safety before those individuals are released into our communities.

Immigration Raid: Swift raids were a coordinated effort by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to detain and deport undocumented workers and people already in deportation proceedings. They would separate families and take anyone that did not have proper documentation even if they were not part of the group of people they were looking for. There have been large increases in raids and use of immigration enforcement since the new administration took office. For more information you can refer [here](#) and [here](#).

Temporary Protected Status (TPS): The Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a foreign country for TPS due to conditions in the country that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately. USCIS may grant TPS to eligible nationals of certain countries (or parts of countries), who are already in the United States. Eligible individuals without nationality who last resided in the designated country may also be granted TPS.

- The Secretary may designate a country for TPS due to the following temporary conditions in the country:
 - Ongoing armed conflict (such as civil war)
 - An environmental disaster (such as earthquake or hurricane), or an epidemic
 - Other extraordinary and temporary conditions
- During a designated period, individuals who are TPS beneficiaries or who are found preliminarily eligible for TPS upon initial review of their cases (prima facie eligible):
 - Are not removable from the United States
 - Can obtain an employment authorization document (EAD)
 - May be granted travel authorization
- Once granted TPS, an individual also cannot be detained by DHS on the basis of his or her immigration status in the United States.
- TPS is a temporary benefit that does not lead to lawful permanent resident status or give any other immigration status. However, registration for TPS does not prevent you from:
 - Applying for nonimmigrant status
 - Filing for adjustment of status based on an immigrant petition
 - Applying for any other immigration benefit or protection for which you may be eligible
- Countries currently designated for TPS include:
 - El Salvador - terminates 9/9/2019 (contested)
 - Haiti - terminates 7/22/2019 (contested)
 - Honduras
 - Nepal
 - Nicaragua - terminates 1/5/2019 (contested)
 - Somalia
 - Sudan - terminates 11/2/2018 (contested)
 - South Sudan
 - Syria
 - Yemen

Mixed Status Families - Families in which different members have different kinds of immigration status which is very common.

Chain Migration - The Trump Administration has proposed to end immigration based on family ties or family unification; which they dub "chain-migration." Essentially, US citizens and permanent residents may petition for their close family members (spouses, children, parents, sometimes young siblings) to be considered to receive immigration status, but they are proposing to do away with this, which could further separate mixed-status families.

Skilled Migration - The Trump Administration is also proposing to cut “skilled” migration, or immigration based on employment offers, in about half, and to make the immigration system “merit based,” meaning that it would further favor “good immigrants” who have more education, often due to having certain privileges in their home countries.



KEY TERMS & CONCEPTS

ALLYSHIP

POWER: The capacity or ability to direct or influence the behavior of others or dictate the course of events.

INSTITUTIONAL POWER: The ability or official authority to decide what is best for others or on behalf of others. The ability to decide who will have access to resources. The capacity to exercise control over others.

PREJUDICE: A judgment or opinion that is formed on insufficient grounds before facts are known or in disregard of facts that contradict it. Prejudices are learned and can be unlearned.

STEREOTYPE: An exaggerated or distorted belief that attributes characteristics to members of a particular group, simplistically lumping them together and refusing to acknowledge differences among members of the group.

PRIVILEGE: Privilege operates on personal, interpersonal, cultural, and institutional levels and gives an unearned advantage, immunity, permission, right or benefit granted to or enjoyed by an individual, group, class, race, gender, sexuality. Privilege is directly related to an ability to influence or have power in society. It is usually normalized or seen as universal and most often invisible to people who have it. People in dominant groups often believe that they have earned the privileges that they enjoy or that everyone could have access to these privileges if only they worked to earn them. In fact, privileges are unearned and they are granted to people in the dominant groups whether they want those privileges or not, and regardless of their stated intent.

Unlike targets of oppression, people in dominant groups are frequently unaware that they are members of the dominant group due to the privilege of being able to see themselves as persons rather than stereotypes.

OPPRESSION: The combination of prejudice and institutional power which creates a system that discriminates against some groups (often called “target groups”) and benefits other groups (often called “dominant groups”). Examples of these systems are racism, sexism, heterosexism, ableism, classism, ageism, and anti-Semitism. These systems enable dominant groups to exert control over target groups and create hierarchies of access by limiting their rights and freedoms to basic resources such as health care, education, employment, and housing.

SYSTEMS OF OPPRESSION: A system of interconnected rules and relationships that ensure that oppression and power structures are maintained and replicated on multiple layers, including:

Internalized Oppression: the process by which a member of targeted social identity group comes to accept and live out the inaccurate myths and stereotypes applied to the group.

Interpersonal Oppression: oppression is created and reproduced among people in close relationships through the use of degrading language and or actions that reinforce feelings of inferiority or incompetence for individuals of targeted social identity groups.

Institutionalized Oppression: The systematic mistreatment of people within a social identity group. Occurs when established laws, customs, and practices systematically reflect and produce inequities based on one’s membership in targeted social identity groups

INTERSECTIONALITY & INTERLOCKING OPPRESSIONS: A concept developed by Kimberlé Crenshaw in order to describe the complex and simultaneous interactions among and within identity categories. This concept describes identities as interrelated, not additive, and so they cannot be separated or ignored. Intersectionality holds that the classical conceptualizations of oppression within society, such as racism, sexism, homophobia, and religion-based bigotry, do not act independently of one another; instead, these forms of oppression interrelate, creating a system of oppression that reflects the "intersection" of multiple forms of discrimination

RACISM: Racism is a system in which one race maintains supremacy over another race through a set of attitudes, behaviors, social structures, and institutional power. Racism is a "system of structured dis-equality where the goods, services, rewards, privileges, and benefits of the society are available to individual according to their presumed membership in" particular racial groups (Barbara Love, 1994. *Understanding Internalized Oppression*). A person of any race can have prejudices about people of other races, but only members of the dominant social group can exhibit racism because racism is prejudice plus the institutional power to enforce it.

XENOPHOBIA: Intense and/or irrational dislike and/or fear of people from other countries. Conversations and debates about immigration and immigration reform are often laden with ahistorical and xenophobic rhetoric, an example of which is the insistence on using terminology like "illegal" and "alien" when referring to undocumented people.

GENDER: Gender is a set of socially constructed, assigned behaviors and identity patterns which are often perceived to be intertwined with and/or equivalent to one's sexual biology. In fact, gender is constructed and fluid, having multiple meanings across cultures, geographies, communities, and individuals. Although society promotes the dualistic concept that people are either a woman or a man, there are more than two genders. (For more information, please visit Gender Equity Resource Center (GenEq): <https://cejce.berkeley.edu/geneq>.)

LGBTIQ: Sexual orientation refers to who you are attracted to and the category that you identify that desire as (some examples are lesbian, gay, heterosexual, bisexual, queer, etc.). Gender identity refers to one's sense of one's own gendered identity (some examples include woman, bi-gendered, man, two-spirit, transgendered, etc.). Sex refers to one's biology (some examples include female, intersex, male, etc.). The I and Q in LGBTIQ stand for "intersex" and "Transgender." (For more information, please visit Gender Equity Resource Center (GenEq): <https://cejce.berkeley.edu/geneq>.)

ALLY: An ally is a person whose commitment to dismantling oppression is reflected in a willingness to do the following:

- Educate oneself about oppression;
- Learn from and listen to people who are targets of oppression;
- Examine and challenge one's own prejudices, stereotypes, and assumptions;
- Work through feelings of guilt, shame, and defensiveness to understand what is beneath them and what needs to be healed;
- Learn and practice the skills of challenging oppressive remarks, behaviors, policies, and institutional structures;
- Act collaboratively with members of the target group to dismantle oppression.

It is also important to remember that the term "ally" is also a verb meaning to form or enter into an alliance with or to build connection and/or relationship between.

EMPATHY: is the ability to mutually experience the thoughts, emotions, and direct experience of others. It goes beyond sympathy, which is a feeling of care and compassion for the suffering of others. It is not necessary to empathize with an undocumented student to be an ally, and *often over-empathizing, or over-identifying with a student can take up unnecessary space or minimize their experience.*

For example, "I know it's not easy to be an undocumented student because my family was undocumented and I can relate to a lot of those challenges."