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Philippe Legrain

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Philippe Legrain : Immigrants Your Country Needs Them before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Immigrants Your Country Needs Them:

13 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Immigration OpportunitiesBy Simon BurrowAlmost everybody can agree that, over the long run, the world is better off because of human migration. Think about North America. And they can also agree that people should be able to leave a place without opportunity like Buffalo, NY and move to a place like San Jose, CA where they can have a better life. But the rational agreement ends when the immigration is happening now and the immigrants are foreign. At an emotional instinctive level people don't want strangers in the

neighborhood. This discordance between people's philosophy and their politics is one of the themes of Philippe Legrain's excellent book about Immigration. In *Immigrants Your Country Needs Them* he looks at immigration trend and issues around the world and systematically refutes the anti-immigrant arguments. He takes apart the standard arguments about cost, jobs, welfare and acculturation rates and shows alternative ways of looking at the same data that support the argument for more immigration. Legrain also makes very good arguments in favor of immigration. He shows the needs of the developed world for more people, how migration helps the sending countries and the tremendous benefit it gives to migrants. He uses examples from around the world to make these powerful arguments but they are not the best part of the book. Philippe Legrain is also passionate about immigration. In almost every chapter after he makes the rational argument he also makes the emotional arguments. After taking about the border control situation in the EU and the USA he writes, "all our immigration controls have is a veneer of decency, which conveniently allows us to turn a blind eye to their terrible consequences." At the end of his introduction Legrain writes "If you believe that the world is an unequal place and that the rich should do more to help the poor, then freer international migration should be the next front in the battle for global economic justice." He then makes a compelling case to show the truth of this assertion. Well done.

3 of 25 people found the following review helpful. AberrationsBy Bogdan HagiuThe author is a devil's advocate of a policy of mass immigration into the West. It let me the impression that he collected his arguments after a cocaine fuelled brainstorming session. He presents the usual "RATIONAL" arguments in favour of immigration: economic benefits, alleviation of labour shortages, increase in entrepreneurship, alleviation of the pension crisis, etc. However, his account of the rational benefits is biased because he does not consider the costs too: increased criminality, terrorism threats, a burden on the health service, etc. Then he augments his "rational" arguments with emotional (IRRATIONAL) ones: increased diversity is good, the mixing of races is good, equity, equality, fraternity, the fight against fascism, peace, etc. On the other hand, the author dismisses the critics of his pro-immigration views as "racists" because he considers their arguments "irrational". So it seems that according to him some emotional arguments are more proper than others - the "racist" ones. THE AUTHOR JUST GIVES CREDENCE TO THE BELIEF THAT THE TRUE REASON WHY WE HAVE SO MANY FOREIGNERS IN EUROPE IS THAT A DANGEROUS POLITICAL ELITE OPENED THE DOOR TO IMMIGRATION NOT FOR THE SAKE OF OUR NATIONAL BENEFIT BUT FOR THEIR OWN CRETIN IDEOLOGICAL MOTIVES.

Immigration divides our globalizing world like no other issue. We are swamped by illegal immigrants and infiltrated by terrorists, our jobs stolen, our welfare system abused, our way of life destroyed--or so we are told. At a time when National Guard units are deployed alongside vigilante Minutemen on the U.S.-Mexico border, where the death toll in the past decade now exceeds 9/11's, Philippe Legrain has written the first book about immigration that looks beyond the headlines. Why are ever-rising numbers of people from poor countries arriving in the United States, Europe, and Australia? Can we keep them out? Should we even be trying? Combining compelling firsthand reporting from around the world, incisive socioeconomic analysis, and a broad understanding of what's at stake politically and culturally, *Immigrants* is a passionate but lucid book. In our open world, more people will inevitably move across borders, Legrain says--and we should generally welcome them. They do the jobs we can't or won't do--and their diversity enriches us all. Left and Right, free marketeers and campaigners for global justice, enlightened patriots--all should rally behind the cause of freer migration, because They need Us and We need Them.

Shortlisted for the 2007 Financial Times/Goldman Sachs Business Book of the Year Award "Mr. Legrain performs an invaluable service; he makes a good case for the unpopular cause of free flows of people. The book is a superb combination of direct reportage with detailed analysis of the evidence."--Martin Wolf, Financial Times "Mr. Legrain has assembled powerful evidence to undermine the economic arguments against immigration."--Economist "In all important respects Legrain is right on target. In the context of the fearful chatter that surrounds the subject, sense as good as this needs cherishing."--Guardian "Immigrants boldly challenges the conventional thinking at every turn. [Legrain] makes a powerful case that free movement of people is just as beneficial as the free movement of goods and capital. The book is carefully written; the argumentation is never slapdash stuff of the xenophobes. [A]n extraordinary book, making the best case I have ever read for an open-border policy."--George C. Leef, Regulation Magazine From the Back Cover "We expect crisp writing and careful analysis from Philippe Legrain. In *Immigrants*, he adds reporting from across the world and a passionate defense of our freedom to cross borders. By turns logical, daring, and compassionate, this is a terrific book."--Tim Harford, author of *The Undercover Economist* "The single best non-technical defense of a liberal immigration policy. What I liked most was how it put U.S. debates in a broader context; most American sources don't do this.... The book is original in this regard, yet without moving beyond easily understood arguments."--Tyler Cowen, author of *Discover Your Inner Economist* About the Author Philippe Legrain is a British economist, journalist, and writer. Previously trade and economics correspondent for the "Economist" and special adviser to the director-general of the World Trade Organization, he is the author of "Open World: The Truth About Globalization", and has written for the "Financial Times", the "New Republic", and "Foreign Policy", among

other publications