Immigration and Median Income of Metropolitan Areas

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Problem Statement

Introduction

In America, immigration has been a thorn in the flesh for many leaders and the U.S. Congress. All the laws the congress has been passing since American gained independence are not offering any concrete solutions to the problem. In some cases, some laws created by the U.S. Congress result in racial discrimination, while others are resulting in an influx of immigrants to the country leading to either positive or negative effects on the economy. In either way, immigrants have a certain influence on the metropolitan areas in America. According to many scholars, the immigrants have two effects on the metropolitan areas in America. In these cases, certain scholars say immigrants contribute to the economy in these areas, while other scholars say that immigrants contribute to lowering of wages in these areas. Therefore, because of these two effects, immigrants definitely tend to affect the median household income in metropolitan areas. However, the main problem is how the U.S. Congress has been passing some of these laws. According to researchers, the U.S. Congress has been assuming the economic benefits and drawbacks of having these immigrants in the country. In this case, the U.S. Congress has been examining little data to evaluate the costs and contributions of these immigrants to create new laws. For this reason, the paper concentrates on analyzing the influence of immigrants on median household income in metropolitan areas. Therefore, using the 2000 US census report, a conclusion about how a highly populated by immigrants metropolitan area influences median household income is reached. In addition, Latinos and Asian immigrants are analyzed separately to establish the individual effects these two communities have on the median household income

of metropolitan areas. Finally, this information will be applicable for making recommendations to the necessary authorities on how to solve the problem of immigration in America.

Literature Review

First, it is valuable to understand what median household income is. According to Tucker, median household income is the amount that divides household incomes into two categories (Tucker, 2008). In this case, the first category is those households that are earning above the median income while the other category is those households that are earning lower than the median household income (Tucker, 2008). The median household income is better and easier to use when evaluating household incomes or the economic performance of a certain region in comparison to the average household income. This is because the average household income is subjected to many factors in the economy (Tucker, 2008). However, certain factors tend to affect the median household income. This is where the household income can be above the median household income or below it. Immigrants are one of those factors affecting the median household income. For this reason, this information is of immense significance to the study, because it provides the basis for this study.

After learning this information, it is valuable to evaluate the different immigration laws the U.S. Congress has been creating since independence. According to the American constitution, the immigration legislation is under the U.S. Federal Government (Johnson, 2007). Therefore, since the U.S. Congress is the main body of the U.S. Federal Government, it has the mandate to pass immigration laws. For this reason, the immigration laws lie under the Title 8 of the U.S. Code (Johnson, 2007). This means that the U.S. Congress is faced with the hefty duty of creating immigration laws that will help in solving problems arising from immigrants. In the past, there was discrimination against immigrants, and the white Americans became afraid they

could become a majority (Medina, 2011). This led to many riots forcing the U.S. Congress to create laws that would restrict immigrants' entry within the American borders. However, every law the U.S. Congress has been passing contains certain loopholes that result in chaos. Presently, it is affecting the U.S. economy.

The other information that will be of vast significance to this study is the migratory pattern of immigrants in the American metropolitan areas. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there is a significant increase in the number of immigrants settling in all metropolitan areas of the United States. According to many scholars, immigrants are playing a crucial role in the economy of metropolitan areas (Hall, Singer, De Jong & Graefe, 2011). This means that immigrants are affecting the median household income. In this case, certain scholars believe that immigrants are raising household income above the median household income. On the other hand, several professionals believe that immigrants are lowering household income in metropolitan areas, affecting the white Americans (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012). The most astonishing issue about this information is that the U.S. Congress often ignores to elucidate this information while creating immigration laws. As a result, this leads to laws that end up creating more harm than good.

However, it is worth noting that different immigrant communities present different effects on the median household incomes. For instance, the Latinos have been migrating to America since the country attained independence (Jimenez, 2011). In most case, when the Latinos migrate from their original homelands to America, they are in search of a better life. For this reason, they end up migrating to metropolitan areas in the American states. Similar to other immigrant societies, they play a crucial role in the economy of the metropolitan areas (Jimenez, 2011). In the process, they end up affecting the household median income of these regions. In

this case, the study aims at identifying how the society of immigrants affects the household median income to provide quality information to authorities in charge.

Another immigrant society gaining popularity in the American metropolitan areas is the Asian community. After America realizing the economic benefit of immigrants in the late twentieth century, they opened their borders to immigrants. As a result, the Asian community took this advantage to migrate to American metropolitan areas for purposes of attaining a better life (Ying, 2012). As a result, this is leading to a significant growth of immigrants in America's metropolitan regions (Pew Research Center, 2012). Therefore, due to this considerable growth, Asians have a huge effect on the median household income. Similar to the other immigrant communities, different scholars have varied views about the contribution of Asians towards increase/ decrease of the household median income in metropolitan areas (Pew Research Center, 2012). Due to this, information about Asian immigrants in the metropolitan areas will provide a powerful insight with a wealth of information to the study.

Finally, the information about median household income of the United States will be of immense significance to the study. In this case, it is valuable to understand the statistical figures of median household income of the past and the present. According to this data, there have been significant changes in the median household income in America metropolitan areas due to the increase of immigrants (U.S. Department of Commerce, 2012). In this case, this information will provide a true representation of what is happening in different states. Additionally, this data is going to help with a mix of other information to confirm the influence of immigrants on median household income in America's metropolitan areas.

Research Question or Hypothesis

Presently, America is facing a significant problem with immigration. Many people across the globe are migrating to America in search of a better life. When these people migrate to America, they tend to occupy the metropolitan areas of the states. As a result, they have a notable influence on these regions. The effects range from socio-economical to political factors. Therefore, depending on the effect, it can either be positive or negative. Because of this, the U.S. Congress is creating laws that will take advantage of the positive effects while reducing the negative effects (Rawlings, Capps, Gentsch & Fortuny, 2007). However, based on the immigration legislations, the U.S. Congress has not been able to introduce laws that will solve this problem amicably. This is because they are creating laws and implementing these legislations without foreseeing crucial loopholes that cause new problems. According to researchers, the US Congress has been taking into consideration the political factors and other social factors to make these laws. Additionally, they have been considering the economic implications of having immigrants when creating these legislations.

However, what many scholars fail to recognize is that when the U.S. Congress is passing these laws, they fail to use detailed information to come up with appropriate strategies that would solve the problem. The U.S. Congress is failing to use data about median household income of metropolitan areas while making these legislations. Based on this data, several economists state that immigrants drive down wages and depress the economy. On the contrary, other economists state that immigrants make a positive contribution to the economy of American metropolitan areas. For this reason, the study hypothesizes that metropolitan regions with higher concentrations of immigrants will have higher median household incomes.

Therefore, in order to prove the hypothesis, the study is aiming to answer several questions in the process. The first question is how the immigrants affect a metropolitan region to have a high median household income. The answers to this question will prove that the higher the number of immigrants in these regions is, the higher the median household income. Moreover, this question provides a basis for relevant authority should capitalize on immigrants' positive influence on the economy to make effective immigration legislations.

The second question is what the negative immigrants' influence on the median household income of metropolitan areas is. As much as the paper aims at trying to evaluate the positive effects of immigrants on median household income, it is critical not to miss the negative effects as well. This would definitely assist in establishing legislations that will curb the menace amicably. The third question is what efforts the relevant authorities are putting to capitalize on these advantages while suppressing disadvantages. This is mainly for purposes of establishing what the government and other authorities are doing to solve the problem. Finally, what are the various strategic options that can elucidate from this information? This is for the purposes of deriving proper recommendations and solutions based on the study data.

<div align="center">**Data**</div>

The first source is the book *'Microeconomics for Today'* by Tucker. This book provides clear details about median household income (Tucker, 2008). In addition, this book provides extensive details about conducting the research. For instance, the research requires information about factors affecting median household income. This is for the purposes of establishing how immigrants living in metropolitan areas affect median household income. The book also provides definition to certain terms to be used in this study (Tucker, 2008). For this reason, the book is

useful for the information required to evaluate and identify factors affecting median household income.

The second source is the U.S. Census Bureau. The U.S. Census Bureau has the data about the migratory patterns of immigrants in metropolitan regions (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012). Additionally, it has more detailed data about the different immigrant communities. In this case, data from the U.S. Census Bureau supports the credibility of the paper. The U.S. Census Bureau provides a true data of what is truly happening (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012). For this reason, sources from the U.S. Census Bureau will help identify migration patterns of immigrants in different states. In addition, this information will make it possible to understand whether migration of immigrants to metropolitan areas is on the rise or decline, depending on the state. Therefore, using this data, it would be easier to study states with a high increase of immigrants' number to understand the factors that have led to this increase. On the other hand, data from the U.S. Census Bureau will help identify states that have a decline in a number of immigrants (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012). As a result, it would be easier to learn the factors that have led to this decline. For this reason, data from the U.S. Census Bureau will be of significant help while conducting the study.

The other source that will be of significant help to this study is the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. In this case, use of information from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will be of significant help in identifying the different immigration legislations created by the U.S. Congress over the years (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2011). Another source that provides legislations created by the U.S. Congress is the book by Medina. The book provides information about the different immigration laws and the circumstances that led to creation of these laws (Medina, 2011). In addition, the study aims at identifying the information

the U.S. Congress uses when they are making this legislation. For this reason, it is critical to

have credible sources to provide this data. Finally, book by Kevin Johnson is another source that

provides the necessary information discussing the dangers these laws pose to America (Johnson,

2007). Therefore, data from these sources will help identify problems the U.S. Congress

encounters when passing this legislation with ignorance of excluding certain information.

The other source that will be of significant help is from the U.S. Department of

Commerce. In this case, the source provides financial data about the median household income

of different metropolitan areas of American states (U.S. Department of Commerce, 2012).

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Commerce provides past and present information about the

financial data of median household income (U.S. Department of Commerce, 2012). For this

reason, this information will be important in evaluating and comparing the past and present. As a

result, this information would help in clarifying how an increase of immigrants results in high

levels of median household income. The other source is the article 'The Rise of Asian

Americans'. In this case, the article will be helpful for purposes of understanding the Asian

migration patterns (Pew Research Center, 2012). Another source is the article by Ying Yang.

This article evaluates the contribution of Asian immigrants towards the median household

income of American metropolitan areas (Ying, 2012). Therefore, a combination of these sources

will help in the evaluation of median household income of Asian immigrants in different states

of America.

The information by Marcello is another valuable source in this study. This source

provides information about the Latinos (Siles, 1997). According to this source, it provides

helpful data to understand the Latino immigrant community. The other sources that provide an

excellent insight about the Latinos contribution to the household median income in American

metropolitan areas are books by Jimenez and Frey. These books provide an evaluation of the

Latino immigrant community in relation to their contribution to median household income (Frey,

2005). Moreover, these sources provide a comparison of the Latino immigrant community with

other immigrant communities (Jimenez, 2011). In this case, this helps clearly understand the

effect Latinos have on the median household income of metropolitan regions. The other article is

by Gupta, and it helps analyze effects of Latinos on the Chicago metropolitan areas' incomes

(Gupta, 2004). It is worth to note that all these sources are credible and provide a true

representation of what is happening. Therefore, these sources provide the study with credible

information and a reality of the situation.

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