**Chapter 4 Immigration and Oppression: the Assault on Cultural and Language Diversity**

**“We are all citizens of one world; we are all of one blood. To hate someone because he is born in another country, because he speaks a different language or because he takes a different view on a subject is a great folly.” John Comenius (1592-1670)**

**-Xenophobia-the fear of or prejudice against people from other nations**

**-European colonists came to America and savage Indians that justified enslaving them..seeds of white supremacy were sustained and nurtured**

**-the problem with recreating the Old World was that it was not possible to make the colonies into a New England**

**-President George Washington said: “the more homogeneous our citizens can be made…the greater will be our prospect of permanent union”**

**-New American Congress passed a law in 1790 that limited citizenship in the United States to immigrants who were “white” persons**

**A.Causes of Xenophobia and Nativism in the United States**

**-assimiliation-refers to a process in which immigrants adopt cultural traits from their host country and are absorbed into society**

**-nativism-advocates the protection of native inhabitants of a country from new or potential immigrants who are seen as threatening or dangerous**

**1.nativism as anti-Catholicism**

**-birth of United States was strongly influenced by Protestant Christianity**

**-by 1820 the 200,000 Catholics in the United States stimulated anti-Catholic sentiment and the fear was that Catholics would to try convert Protestants, especially children**

**-the Native American party insisted on a residency of twenty-one years before an immigrant was eligible for citizenship**

**-to avoid having their children subjected to anti-Catholic sentiments, Catholics created their own privately funded schools**

**2.nativism as anti-radicalism**

**-many immigrants realized they were being exploited and helped to create unions**

**-nativism concerns were that unions were un-American, amount of land was decreasing so immigrants settled in urban areas**

**B.Nativism, Politics, and Social Change**

**-know nothings party was established**

**1.How successful were the nativists in their political activities?**

**-know nothing party wanted to keep immigrants from voting and encouraged election day riots**

**-Congress stopped secret organizations and stopped the party**

**2.Why did nativists fail to form a major party?**

**-slavery issues helped to fade out know nothing party**

**-Americanization-of immigrants and public schools encouraged immigrants to abandon their heritage and conform to American ways**

**-Roosevelt said that there is not room for hyphenated Americans**

**3.What influenced twentieth-century nativist attitudes in America?**

**-When World War I started, Nativism surged as German Americans were singled out for poor treatment**

**-Roosevelt admonished German Americans for claiming dual identify**

**-Anti-Semitism-prejudices, stereotypes, or engaging in discrimination against Jews**

**4.What new development affected xenophobic attitudes in the United States?**

**-poor attitude that the cross between any of the European races and Jew is a Jew**

**-Henry Ford and other well-known believed in this ideology as well**

**5.How did racism affect nativists attitudes and actions?**

**-nativists used new racist concerns for preserving the nation’s Anglo Saxon heritage to sound the alarm about the numbers of immigrants from southern and eastern Europe**

**6.What groups were affected by the addition of racism to xenophobia?**

**-it was directed against people of color and against white people who were not white enough**

**-blacks were a huge target but Italians were considered just as “black”**

**-the idea of national origin defining separate races declined as skin color became the primary determinant of racial identity, and racism would prolong the oppression of people of color beyond the time normally experienced by white ethnic groups**

**B.the paradox of xenophobia and nativism in a nation of immigrants**

**-eugenics-the study of agencies under social control that may improve or repair the racial qualities of future generations either physically or mentally**

**-many people believed that there was a racial component to the problems represented by immigrants whom they regarded as the primary cause of this decline of intelligence in America**

**-one legacy of the eugenic movement is the standardized testing used to measure academic achievement that students still use today (is it culturally biased)  
1.How is the English only movement an example of xeonophobic behavior?**

**-Nativists have always been critical of immigrants who maintain their native language**

**-they lobbied for literature tests as a strategy to reduce immigration**

**-English Only advocates demand English to be declared American’s official language**

**-immigrants have always tended to learn English out of necessity for economic and social well-being**

**-English Only laws can prevent immigrants who are trying to learn English from having access to useful information or allowing them to vote**

**2.How have xenophobic attitudes promoted violent behavior?**

**-promotion to see recent immigrants as foreign**

**-immigrants accused of taking “our jobs”**

**3.What American nativists attitudes are evident today?**

**-73% of Americans surveyed believe US needed to strictly limit immigration**

**-backlash is largely against Latinos**

**-there is a belief that migration from Mexico is the catalyst that is starting the demise of America**

**-people in Arizona has said that America is being flooded by illegals who are substandard humans**

**-some people say that immigrants make many important contributions to the US**

**-many undocumented workers DO NOT enroll in government assistance programs because they don’t speak English well, are not aware of such programs, and are reluctant to get help in fear of being deported**

**-Latino children are more likely to retain their culture than other immigrant children**

**4.How do immigrants contribute to our economy?**

**-illegal and legal immigrants spend more than 10 billion dollars in the US economy each year**

**-Latinos purchase high-quality brand materials**

**-Latinos are becoming entrepreneurs**

**C.The value of cultural and linguistic diversity**

**-differences between languages reveal that despite our similarities, human beings tend to see the world in distinctive ways**

**Linguistic diversity-the range of variation exhibited by human language**

**1.do Americans support or oppose linguistic diversity?**

**-25% of all K-12 students in the US come from homes where a language other than English is spoken**

**-some people argue that immigrants and their children should not be encouraged to maintain fluency in their native languages, but should focus on English and be assimilated into American society**

**-there is a perception that a nation’s citizen’s should be monolingual, yet most individuals in the world today or either bilingual or multilingual**

**2.Why do immigrants families tend to lose their Native language?**

**-most are lost within the 3rd generation**

**-once children enter K-12 schools, they learn English and usually prefer English by the time they leave elementary school**

**3.What alternative pedagogical strategy have American educators proposed?**

**-educators have advocated for bilingual education to preserve linguistic diversity in the US**

**-many politicians and Americans feel that bilingual education helps students learn in schools better resulting in assimilation**

**-some people feel students have the right to maintain their native language….we don’t have enough bilingual educators in this country!**

**-evidence shows that nonspeaking English children do better in school if they start and all of their early instruction is in their Native language**

**4.Have research studies identified effective approaches to ELL instruction?**

**-some have only had English spoken in the rooms**

**-evidence says better social, mental, and psychological benefits from bilingual education**

**5.Why should educators be advocates for bilingual programs?**

**-it is advantageous for US to have citizens fluent in more than one language for diplomacy economics, and educational reasons**

**6.What myths about immigrants do many Americans believe?**

**-these fuel negative attitudes toward immigrants**

**a.Immigrants arrive ignorant, penniless, with very little formal education and immediately have to go on welfare**

**-they actually help strengthen our society**

**-benefit local economies**

**b.Immigrants cling to their culture, language, and traditions, and refuse to assimilate into the American “melting pot”**

**-most after growing up combine cultures but maintain their identity as a hybrid and most are bi or multilingual**

**c.The United States is taking more than its fair share of immigrants, and other countries need to take more**

**-the US only takes about 1% of the world’s refugees**

**d.The main problem with US immigration is the large number of illegal immigrants getting into the country**

**-they make of 20% of the immigration population and about 2% of the US population**

**e.Illegal immigrants are responsible for increased crime, disease, and terrorism in the US**

**-not true!**

**f.Immigrants are taking jobs away from Americans**

**-bussiness people say they are essential to the US economy-they take jobs nobody else…even jobless Americans will do**