The New Demographic Reality Raises the Priority on Education in California

With support from the Haynes Foundation

Why the Breakdown of California?
The Intergenerational Solution
Getting People on the Same Page
Steps to the Repair of California
Why the Breakdown of California?

Spending and Taxes in California
By Age, 2000

Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Figure 9.1; Ron Lee et al. (2003)
Two Narratives of Population Change

DESPAIR

- Whites Losing Their Majority
- Accelerating Immigration
- Not Invited
- Not Assimilating
- Not Needed
- Too Much Population Growth

Are Immigrants a Burden or a Benefit?

Percent of White Voters who Believe Immigrants a Burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberals</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservatives</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gap (L – C)</td>
<td>-14</td>
<td>-35</td>
<td>+21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Chapter 7 & Table B.3; PPIC Statewide Survey
Perceived Immigrant Burden Undermines Tax Support for All

Prop 55 Statewide School Bond Issue in 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Support Reduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservative rather than Liberal</td>
<td>18% LESS support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If believe taxes are wasted a lot</td>
<td>8% even LESS support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If believe immigrants are a burden</td>
<td>9% even LESS support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Holding all other factors equal; controlling for differences in race, age, gender, children present in the family, nativity, education, income, and homeownership*

Source: *Immigrants and Boomers*, Chapter 7, Table B.5

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Rediscovery of Hope About Immigration….

The end of immigration acceleration

More **long-settled** immigrants

Upward mobility after longer residence

Rediscovery of immigrant contributions
The Longer Settlement of California’s Immigrant Population

Percent of Total California Population

Source: Decennial census to 1970-2000; CDF 5.0 California Demographic Futures

Two Narratives of Population Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESPAIR</th>
<th>HOPEFUL OUTLOOK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Whites Losing Their Majority</td>
<td>• Still Plenty of Whites, but with Aging Needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Accelerating Immigration</td>
<td>• Steady Immigration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Not Invited</td>
<td>• Labor Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Not Assimilating</td>
<td>• Upwardly Mobile Immigrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Not Needed</td>
<td>• Critical Impacts of Aging Baby Boomers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Too Much Population Growth</td>
<td>• Helps Balance the Senior Ratio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Intergenerational Solution

First We Need a Problem

Surviving The Baby Boomer Tsunami

Double decades of 30% increase
Growing Weight of Seniors in California

Percent Change in Senior Ratio to 2030
The Trigger of Many Crises

- Social Security Crisis
- Medicare/Health Insurance Crisis
- Workforce Replacement Crisis
- Taxpayer Replacement Crisis
- The Home Seller Crisis
- Education and Infrastructure Crisis

Likely Responses….

Reduced growth in GDP
Delayed retirement by seniors
Reduced or delayed senior benefits
Higher taxes
Greater reliance on immigrant workers
Rediscovery of neglected minority youth
Getting People on the Same Page

Instead of Older Folks Fighting to Get Back to 1970

How Can We Rediscover Hope and Common Purpose Ahead?
Who’s Going to Buy Your House?

Myers’s Projection for California in 2020

Number of Buyers Less Sellers

Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Figure 11.3

Who’s Going to Pay the Taxes?

House Values and Property Tax Payments by Acquisition Year

Source: Myers analysis of American Community Survey 2007
Homegrown Share Highest for the Young

Source: Author's analysis of 1970 Census 2007 American Community Survey data

California-Born Share of the College-Educated Workforce

Old pattern Age 55-64 26%

New pattern Age 25-34 40%

Future pattern Age 25-34 70% ??

Source: Immigrants and Boomers, Table 10.2
Barriers to this Shared Understanding

Education of other people’s kids is not felt to be in voters’ self-interest.

People cannot see change over time, especially not in the future, so we need to help them quantify and visualize.
Thank You

For more information
Google “popdynamics”

Dowell Myers
School of Policy, Planning, and Development
University of Southern California