

Civic Minds

Date: Friday, April 28, 2017

Print Replica Date: Monday, April 24, 2017

Article Title: For Indians, Trump's America is land of lost opportunities

Section: MAIN, A3

Learning Objectives

- ✓ Students will examine why people from other countries want to study and work in the United States.
- ✓ Students will discuss the impact on our colleges and companies if foreign students and employees decide to move elsewhere.
- ✓ Students will debate the future of our country under the Trump administration.

CCSS Standards

Social Studies EALR 1: Civics

The student understands and applies knowledge of government, law, politics, and the nation's fundamental documents to make decisions about local, national, and international issues and to demonstrate thoughtful, participatory citizenship.

Social Studies EALR 3: Geography

Understands the cultural universals of place, time, family life, economics, communication, arts, recreation, food, clothing, shelter, transportation, government, and education.

Social Studies EALR 4: History

- Analyzes the motives and interests behind an interpretation of a recent event.

Social Studies EALR 5: Social Studies

- Analyzes consequences of positions on an issue or event.
- Analyzes the short-term and long-term implications of decisions affecting the global community.

Vocabulary

Look up the definition for ***solace***. Please write the definition and create a new sentence, using your own words.

"Some took ***solace*** that India was not targeted."

Solace definition:

New Sentence:

Civic Minds Activity:

Take a moment to review today's print replica of The Seattle Times. Can you find a story that stands out to you regarding a global issue or someone that was inspired to help others?

Pre-Reading Questions



- What do you see in this picture?
- What is happening?
- What are the feelings/emotions in this photo?
- What do you think the article will be about?

Comprehension Questions:

1. Undergraduate applications from India have fallen at _____ percent of U.S. schools in 2017.
2. Generations of Indians have admired the United States for almost everything. But many are infuriated and unnerved by what they see. What are they seeing happening in the U.S. now?
3. The reaction is not just anger and anxiety. Now, young Indians who have aspired to study, live and work in the United States are doing what?
4. Further alienating Indians, especially among their highly educated class, is the Trump administration's reassessment of H1-B visas given mostly for information technology jobs. Approximately how many are granted each year and who are the majority of the visas given to?
5. The number of applications for H1-B visas also fell, to 199,000, a nearly _____ percent decline, according to data kept by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.
6. What were many Indians offended about regarding Trump's recent actions towards minority groups?

7. But they soon saw that anti-immigrant rage in the United States did not do what?
8. What are some recent incidents of racial violence involving Indians in the United States?
9. About _____ million people of Indian descent live in the United States, slightly more than 1 percent of the population, a Pew Research Center report found. Most hold green cards and H1-B visas, and are far more affluent and educated than the average American.
10. Now, Arora said, she and others in India were looking more favorably on _____ for study and work, despite the upheaval over Britain's planned exit from the European Union. "Comparatively, it's considered safer," she said

Class Discussion Questions or Journal/Essay Prompts:

"We don't know what might happen to us while walking on the street there," said Kanika Arora, a 20-year-old student in Mumbai who is reconsidering her plan to study in the United States. "They might just think that we're terrorists."

Recent attacks on people of Indian descent in the United States are explosive news in India. A country once viewed as the Promised Land now seems for many to be dangerously inhospitable.

- Why do you think there are more racial attacks on Indians living in the United States recently?
- Would you think about moving elsewhere if you were looking to attend school and start a career in the U.S. from India? Why or why not?
- Why do people want to study and get a job in the United States?
- If Indians stop coming to the U.S., how will that impact our schools and job market?

"America was the land of great opportunity," Sanket Bafna, 21, said as he emerged one afternoon last week from an exam at K.C. College, where he is studying financial management. "It's not the same land."

- Are we no longer the land of great opportunity? Why or why not?
- Is it the same land it's always been? Has it changed? What caused those changes, if you think they happened?

In the end, Trump's policies may benefit their home country by cutting off the brain drain, Arora and other Indians said. "All the intelligent people are coming back and can work here," she added.

- How would that impact India if their most intelligent and inspiring leaders came back to work there?
- How would it impact U.S. companies to lose some of their most valuable employees?

“People are really thinking America’s going downhill,” said Shikha Mittal, 33, founder of Be.Artsy, a nine-person firm specializing in using art for marketing.

“It’s hard to take him seriously because the perception is so non serious about him, that he’s not fit for the role he’s got,” Mittal said. “It’s affected how people think about America. What made people vote for him? What sort of people have voted for him?”

“The U.S. has been such a good country with such good policies,” said Singh, a brewer. “And this guy comes to power, and you don’t know what he might actually do.”

- Do you think America is going downhill? Why or why not?
- Do you think Trump is “fit for the role” of president? Why or why not?
- How has voting for him changed how the world views the United States?

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