Appropriate Neighbourhood for Immigrants

Lokesh Kumar Donda

Introduction

Background:

New York is often considered one of the greatest cultural hubs in the country, having welcomed immigrants long before the days of Ellis Island. Immigrants now account for one-fifth of the state's total population and make up a staggering 25 percent of its labor force. As workers, business owners, taxpayers, and neighbors, immigrants are an integral part of New York's diverse and thriving communities and make extensive contributions that benefit all.

One in five New Yorkers is an immigrant, while one in six is a native-born U.S. citizen with at least one immigrant parent.

Business Problem:

It is often imperative that the immigrants need help in trying to find an appropriate neighborhood at least during the initial years of settlement. Current means of selection is solely based on contact(s) they may have in New York or based on employer provided information, which in most cases may not suffice.

There could be some real estate agents or immigration helping services that could provide such information and would charge a good amount of fees for it.

Business Solution proposal:

Idea is to provide an online service which would help the would-be immigrants to explore and choose their neighborhood much before their arrival in New York. Immigrants include people from Asia, Latin America, Europe e.t.c

Plan of action:

To validate the stated problem and solution, we could prototype a solution focused on New York and based on its success, expand it to other cities in the USA.

Data Description

Data Source:

- Information about Neighborhoods in New York would be fetched from NYU Spatial Data Repository available at https://geo.nyu.edu that includes Latitude and Longitude along with Borough's of the City.

- Foursquare API (https://forusquare.com) would be used to gather most commonly available venues in and around the Borough/Neighborhood based on the Latitude and Longitude obtained from the NYU Spatial Data Repository.

Data Usage:

- The data thus fetched would be analysed, explored and grouped based on multiple criteria and the results would be presented to the user both in maps format and in information data tables format to help choose the right Neighborhood according to their Nativity and/or Preference.

- For example, areas surrounded by Chinese Restaurants and Buddist temples would be of consideration to Immigrants from China, Indian Restaurants, Temples of both Hindu and Buddist would be of interest to people from India, SriLanka and Bangladesh.

- Furthermore, Irrespective of the origin Country, Students coming to pursue HIgher Education may find Neighborhoods with Universities, Libraries, Parks and Entertainment places to be of Interest.