

Prompt: Compare the immigration policies of the United States during the 1920s and the 1960s in terms of their impacts on immigrant communities and American society.

Essay:

The immigration policies of the United States in the 1920s and the 1960s both influenced immigrant communities and American society, but they did so in different ways. In the 1920s, the U.S. implemented restrictive quotas that limited immigration from certain countries. In contrast, the 1960s saw the introduction of more open policies that increased immigration and promoted diversity.

During the 1920s, the United States sought to reduce the number of immigrants entering the country, particularly from Southern and Eastern Europe and Asia. This period was marked by a desire to maintain American cultural homogeneity and economic stability. In the 1960s, the U.S. shifted its approach to immigration by passing laws that removed previous restrictions and welcomed immigrants from a broader range of countries, reflecting changing attitudes towards diversity and international relations.

The Immigration Act of 1924 established national origin quotas that severely limited immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe and nearly excluded immigrants from Asia. These quotas were designed to preserve the existing demographic makeup of the United States and reduce the influx of immigrants perceived as less desirable.

In contrast, the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 abolished the national origins quota system. This act allowed for increased immigration from Asia, Africa, and Latin America, promoting greater cultural diversity and addressing family reunification. The new policies aimed to create a more inclusive society and respond to the global changes occurring during that era.

Both the 1920s and 1960s immigration policies had significant effects on immigrant communities and American society. While the 1920s policies restricted immigration and maintained cultural homogeneity, the 1960s policies opened the doors to a more diverse population, fostering multiculturalism and expanding the American workforce.

Feedback:

Thesis/Claim (1 Point): The essay presents a basic thesis that both the immigration policies of the 1920s and the 1960s influenced immigrant communities and American society, highlighting differences.

- *"The immigration policies of the United States in the 1920s and the 1960s both influenced immigrant communities and American society, but they did so in different ways."*

Contextualization (1 Point): The essay provides historical context by mentioning the Immigration Act of 1924 and the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965.

- *"During the 1920s, the United States sought to reduce the number of immigrants entering the country, particularly from Southern and Eastern Europe and Asia."*
- *"In the 1960s, the U.S. shifted its approach to immigration by passing laws that removed previous restrictions and welcomed immigrants from a broader range of countries."*

Evidence (1 Point): The essay mentions specific laws and their impacts on immigration. While the essay identifies specific policies, it does not effectively use these examples to support a deeper argument or analysis. The evidence is presented more as a list rather than integrated into a coherent argument that ties back to the thesis.

- *"The Immigration Act of 1924 established national origin quotas that severely limited immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe and nearly excluded immigrants from Asia."*
- *"The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 abolished the national origins quota system."*

Analysis and Reasoning (0 Points): The essay does not delve into how these policies affected immigrant communities or American society beyond the basic facts of the laws. The essay does not explore multiple perspectives, long-term effects, or the interplay between the two periods.

Total Score: 3