A Nation of Immigrants Faces the Current Wave

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To the Editor:

Whatever subtle word games The Times and the Senate choose to play, if the Senate's disastrous immigration bill becomes law, impoverished villages across the world will buzz with one word: amnesty!

Hundreds of millions of people will relearn the lesson of the 1986 amnesty, which is that if you come to America illegally and keep out of sight, sooner or later they will make you legal.

In 1986, there were three million. This time, there are about 12 million. How many next time?

John Brock

Staten Island, March 29, 2006

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