

Immigrants Aren't Servants For the Middle Class

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Body

To the Editor:

In "Takeout Turnaround" (Soapbox, July 11), I found Marissa Piesman's assumptions about immigrants offensive and condescending, as she describes the "moral fiber" of cooking and laments her eventual decline back into delivery.

Her most objectionable remark is to characterize New York as a "port of entry for thousands of immigrants each year who are eager to stop off here for a while and help feed my family." Whether or not Ms. Piesman is exaggerating for effect, she sacrifices a great deal of sensitivity.

While it is certainly possible that many immigrants in the restaurant business do enjoy their jobs, it is equally likely that many do not. She cannot even begrudge immigrants their right to stay in New York. In her eyes, they are merely stopping off for a while.

Immigrants are a vital part of this city and this country. They are not transients and they are not servants to the middle class.

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