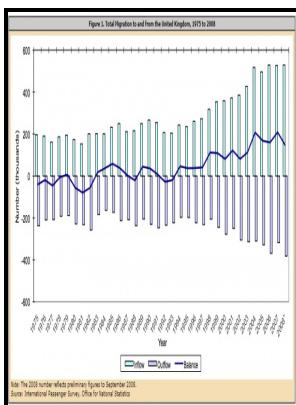


# Party political reaction to the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act

University of Birmingham - Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1962



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## Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1962

Plans to repatriate thousands of Poles were shelved in 1946, for strictly practical, not humanitarian, reasons. More persuasively, Spencer argues that Black and Asian immigration was strictly controlled by administrative means in the 1950s, and when these ceased to be effective legislation was turned to.

## Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1962

Under capitalism workers are forced to compete for the scarce economic resources available to the working class. The current tightening of asylum procedures in the West was preceded by the virtual ending of all other forms of immigration in many advanced capitalist countries by the mid-1970s. These effectively gave carte blanche to police and immigration officials to raid both the businesses and the homes of black and Asian residents in Britain.

## Migration from Jamaica in the 1970s: Political Protest or Economic Pull? on JSTOR

This is despite the fact that the number of illegal immigrants in Britain appears to be shrinking and there has never been any evidence that illegal immigrants put any extra strain on services.

## Between Consensus, Consolidation and Crisis: Immigration and Integration in 1970s Britain

They closed the door to mass immigration not because they were racist reactionaries, but because public opinion — as manifested in one poll after another - demanded it.

## Between Consensus, Consolidation and Crisis: Immigration and Integration in 1970s Britain

Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1962 This act restricted the admission of Commonwealth settlers to those who had been issued with employment vouchers. Taking as its case study the passage of what became the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act, the article considers the level of

influence that should be attributed to these committees, and whether or not they should be considered as significant fora of power and influence. As will be seen, the passage of the Commonwealth Immigrants Bill is an excellent example of influential impotence, both in the leadership being forced to take backbench opinion into account, and in the failure of backbench opinion to generate sufficient consensus to force the issue.

### **The Passage of the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act, a Case**

Throughout the 1950s, the official position of the Labour Party on immigration control was one of consistent opposition.

#### **Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1962**

This approach in itself set up a difficulty, however. The overriding reason for this dramatic turnabout lies in the ending of the long post-war boom and the return of crisis to the system during the late 1960s. Please read our before posting.

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