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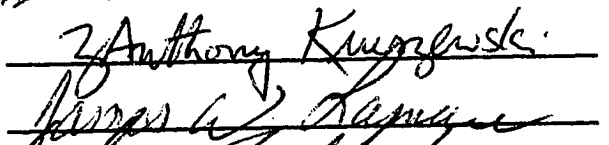
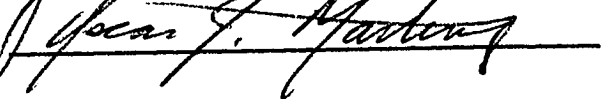
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POLITICAL BEHAVIOR ALONG THE BORDER:CHICANO ATTITUDES  
TOWARD MEXICAN UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS

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POLITICAL BEHAVIOR ALONG THE BORDER:  
CHICANO ATTITUDES TOWARD MEXICAN  
UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS

by

RICHARD GUTIERREZ

REPORT

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTION.....	1
II. Economic Factors.....	5
A. Adverse Impact.....	6
B. Lack of Adverse Impact.....	7
C. Case for Restrictionism.....	9
D. Case Against Restrictionism.....	12
III. A Note on the Research.....	14
IV. An Analysis of the Data.....	16
V. Discussion and Conclusions.....	26
VI. Footnotes.....	31
VII. Bibliography.....	34



POLITICAL BEHAVIOR ALONG THE BORDER:  
CHICANO ATTITUDES TOWARD MEXICAN UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS

INTRODUCTION

The issue of how to deal with the growing number of immigrants and refugees into the United States is one of paramount interest in today's society. The current instability of the nation's economy, plus the twin evils of inflation and unemployment often cause Americans to seek out scapegoats. In a geographical area such as El Paso, adjacent to the international boundary with Mexico, this issue takes on added significance: recent arrivals from Mexico bear the brunt of an often blind search for scapegoats. Wayne Cornelius contends that politicians, journalists, organized labor, and other interest groups rush to blame the immigrant for every imaginable problem afflicting American society: from high unemployment to depressed wages, high social costs, rising crime rates, drug abuse, overpopulation, environmental pollution, and energy shortages.<sup>1</sup>

Once again, public reaction toward the marked increase in both legal and illegal Hispanic immigration has followed a similar pattern of increased concern over the course of the last ten years.<sup>2</sup> The ever growing influx of Spanish-speaking peoples into the United States has been more recently seen by many as a not so subtle "cultural invasion" by growing numbers