



WHY WE ENGAGE THE IMMIGRATION DEBATE

- According to Jewish tradition, “strangers are to be welcomed and valued, as we were once ‘strangers in the land of Egypt.’” Given our immigration histories, most American Jews feel a sense of obligation to others who flee persecution, wish to reunite with their families, or want to take part in the freedom and opportunity that this nation offers.
- Immigrants enrich this nation economically and culturally. A fair and generous immigration policy reflects our highest values and is an affirmation of the founding principles of this country.
- Depriving immigrants—or any class of people—in our country full and equal rights inevitably tears at the social fabric of our nation, generates anger and resentment, and risks similar injustices toward others.
- Our pro-immigration/immigrant policies appeal to and bolster our relationships with our community partners, even as we seek their support on our core priorities.