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Discussion

History is full of stories and incidences of discrimination and oppression over immigrants in different regions and eras. America is very important in this regard because it has a good number of people constitutes of immigrants. The issue of immigrants gained central importance during world Wars where a majority of people from different parts of the world migrated to the United States for safety and security. Before World War 2, the United States took important measures on a systemic level to allow immigrants and promote the importance of their integration with American culture. One of the steps towards this was a Radio Show that aired in December 1941 called ‘I am an American’ where immigrants participated and expressed their coherence and dedication with American culture and nation. The immigrants including actresses, authors, bandleaders and people from different walks of life expressed and talked about their first impressions of America. Sarah Laskow is the host and plays the recordings from the radio show while doing commentary. Author Thomas Mann talks about his experience that he found Americans very hospitable to himself and his ideas ('I'm An American' Radio Show Promoted Inclusion Before World War II). It was a great step in shaping the American foreign policy towards a more welcoming and internationalist perspective for the immigrants. Even though the government supported such ideas and initiatives but still such welcoming gestures were not extended by everyone from the natives.

Apart from these welcoming steps, INS (Immigration and Neutralization Service) introduced many new agencies in 1941 to facilitate the immigrants. ICE which is the Immigration and Customs Enforcement was made and was responsible for the management of customs and immigration requirements in the country (Rothenberg). USCIS was introduced to facilitate immigrants with various beneficial services including requests for refuge and asylum, administration through the e-verification system, naturalization application and visa petitions.

Work Cited

"'I'm An American' Radio Show Promoted Inclusion Before World War II." 16 10 2017. 4 1 2020.

Rothenberg, Paula S. Race, class, and gender in the United States: An integrated study. Macmillan, 2004.