

# *A Study on the Intermarriage of Illegal Immigrants*

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**Abstract:** China is a populous country, the problem of illegal immigration has always been the focus of scholars and society, this article will focus on the intermarriage of illegal immigrants, most of the subjects of foreign intermarriage are foreign women, intermarriage is mainly aimed at refugees and Chinese citizens. In this state of life, the focus of this article is that why they chose to settle in China and the double-sided influence of their intermarriage on our country. After the comprehensive study of the text, it will give us a policy to solve the problem of illegal immigrants' external intermarriage.

## 1. The Present Situation of Intermarriage of Illegal Immigrants in China

Professor GangLuo believes that illegal immigration means illegal entry, legal entry and illegal overstaying in China for more than three months, being sure that aliens or stateless persons will stay for more than three months.

In recent years, the number of immigrants entering China has increased sharply, of which "illegal immigrants" account for more than 20%.

"Illegal immigrants" have a lower status in the country than refugees, so they want to obtain the corresponding legal rights and interests by marrying refugees. Chinese refugees are mainly distributed in Yunnan, Guangxi, Guangdong and other places, most of them are Chinese from Vietnam, mainly because of the outbreak of anti-Chinese fever in Vietnam in the 1970s. In this paper, they are called the refugee-generations. The majority of the refugee-generations have acquired Chinese nationality and a few have still maintained refugee status. If "illegal immigrants" intermarry with the refugee-generations acquiring Chinese nationality, we can theoretically consider them intermarrying with Chinese citizens, and their children can also acquire Chinese nationality. However, there are many people who have not gone through the formalities for marriage and do not have a marriage certificate. They believe that they have obtained marital status if they have held a banquet in the village or met their parents, but the Chinese Marriage Law clearly stipulates that only by obtaining a marriage certificate can a husband and wife be legally married. Therefore, their children are unable to settle down because of the lack of their parents' marriage certificate, but in practice, the relevant departments will settle down some children in accordance with the "de facto marriage"; "illegal immigrants" marry refugee-generations who have not acquired Chinese nationality, they can apply for apply for remarriage formalities on the ground of long-stay residence in china, and their children we call them the second generation of refugees, which is widespread in refugee areas in China, can go through identity cards and Household Registers, but because there is

no relevant legal basis, the problem of Chinese nationality remains unresolved; If "illegal immigrants" marry the second generation of refugees, they will not be able to go through the formalities of marriage, and their children will not be able to settle down or acquire Chinese nationality.[2]

There is a lot of folk talk about buying wives in China, now there are more and more single men in China, especially in rural areas. the cost of getting married is now too high. women generally require a house (at least a county house) , a car and a high bride price. In a small county in Binzhou City, Shandong Province, the average price of a house is about 6500 yuan per square meter. However, the annual income of local farmers is about 16000 yuan, the bride price is between 60,000 yuan and 110,000 yuan and a car costs about 100,000 yuan, even they need a grand wedding. Therefore, most rural children cannot afford to marry, and the married families are also heavily indebted, and some girls are still unwilling to marry rural boys because of problems such as registered residence, culture and so on, so there are a lot of older men left in rural areas. However, the cost of getting married in Southeast Asian countries is very low. China's current level of development is much higher than that of their country. They also hope to marry to China, and "smuggling" is very convenient and safe in their eyes, and they can walk, take a bus, or take a boat. Troops sometimes patrol the ferry, occasionally see them unattended, and even if they are caught, they will not be over-punished, so many single young men living on the border in China are now considering marrying foreign women. "illegal immigrants" intermarried with Chinese citizens without the formalities of marriage. professor Gang Luo's survey of 43 such families in the estuary of Yunnan found that only one family had a marriage certificate. The reasons why other families do not do so can be broadly divided into three categories: the Government does not allow them to do so; Weddings have been held, it doesn't matter if the formalities are not done; and it costs money to go through the formalities. The local authorities will on the basis of sympathy, settle some children in accordance with the "de facto marriage," but the government will not issue ID cards and Household Registers to "illegal immigrants, " and will not allow them to acquire Chinese nationality. As a result, most of them take care of their children at home or do farm work.[3]

## **2. The Influence of Illegal Immigrants' Intermarriage with Foreign Countries**

The intermarriage of "illegal immigrants" with foreign countries has two sides and needs to be viewed comprehensively. in terms of beneficial effects, there are three main points: the first, it has brought a demographic dividend to China's economic development. although China has now liberalized the two-child policy, However, the population growth is not obvious, the entry of "illegal immigrants" is in itself an introduction of labor, and after their intermarriage, the children will also bring sufficient labor to China; the second, It has solved the marriage problems of many single young men in China and stabilized the social order in a sense; the third, their entry into China will also bring their culture which is conducive to China's cultural diversity and production technology which will also drive technological innovation in certain industries. Of course, the intermarriage of "illegal immigrants" will also have many adverse effects. I think there are four main points: the first, their marriage lacks an emotional basis, some are through the introduction of foreign women, and some are through black intermediaries. A small part of them is free love; the second, children born out of wedlock cannot be society certified and be vulnerable to discrimination and exclusion by the locals; the third, the phenomenon of deceiving marriage and escaping marriage often occurs, so that the man's spiritual and property losses are serious; the fourth, Personal safety risks lurk, many illegal immigrants lack a sense of hygiene, once carrying infectious disease pathogens can easily be transmitted to other family members.[4]

The massive integration of "illegal immigrants" has undermined China's border management order, and the "three forces" will also take the opportunity to infiltrate China and engage in illegal and criminal activities which seriously threatens the stability and security of the frontier areas; "illegal immigrants" marry refugees and border people in the country giving them a sense of dependence in China and creating a blood bond. If the authorities forcibly repatriate them, it will be easy to arouse the dissatisfaction of these families and even break out mass incidents, thus disrupting the social order in China. It is also mentioned above that most of the "illegal immigrants" do farm work in China, and the living conditions are relatively difficult, plus, they have to raise their children. Therefore, due to the pressure of survival, it is easy to breed such illegal and criminal incidents; The most direct problem caused by the intermarriage of "illegal immigrants" is the increase in the number of people, because of their weak legal consciousness and the influence of the traditional reproductive view of having more children and more blessings. The phenomenon of over-birth and prolificacy which has seriously impacted the implementation of China's laws and regulations related to family planning. the number of the population is inversely proportional to the quality of the population under the condition that the resources are relatively stable. In addition, "illegal immigrants" who have not settled down and their children cannot be included in the local medical insurance, so that they have to bear the full cost of seeing a doctor themselves, which often results in the phenomenon of "minor illness dragging into serious illness" .According to the "Immigrant threat theory" , migrants themselves will have double identity and loyalty, which will blur the concept of the state and lack of national identity, be extremely dangerous for a country and seriously affects national security.

### **3. The Causes of Illegal Immigration's Intermarriage with Foreign Countries**

China's border is 4060 kilometers long, there are more than 400 open ports, and there are countless temporary border passageways. Most of the "illegal immigrants" come from countries adjacent to us that they have a relatively close road to China. There are a lot of rural sidewalks along the border that lack natural barriers and be connected by mountains and rivers, and even villages are connected, and the cost of smuggling is relatively low, it does not cost dozens of yuan to travel by car or by boat. most of the administrative departments impose relatively light administrative punishment on ordinary smugglers. It is not enough to deter warning. It is a very good choice for "illegal immigrants" to enter China in order to solve their living problems, so they integrate into the local society as soon as possible, and marry the local border people and refugees; The same cultural circle gives "illegal immigrants" a sense of belonging and sense of security, and most of the areas they enter have the same language and similar customs, which is a kind of immigration network based on local invitation and kinship. In addition, the common physical characteristics increase their cultural identity and psychological acceptance, and clear the emotional barriers for the intermarriage of "illegal immigrants" and the locals; [5] We mentioned the push-pull theory earlier. China's level of development and living conditions are indeed better than those of many of our border countries. We can also explain the motivation of "illegal immigrants" intermarriage from the perspective of structural stratification of the labor market in China's more developed eastern coastal areas.

### **4. The Countermeasures of Illegal Immigrants' Intermarriage with Foreign Countries**

In my opinion, if we want to effectively control the intermarriage of illegal immigrants, we must start from the source and control the entry of illegal immigrants. We can start from the following four points: the first, the management departments should strengthen border patrols and increase patrol personnel and patrol density; the second, increase the penalties for employers who employ

illegal immigrants, so that make them from cannot hire to be afraid of hiring ; and the third, strengthen cooperation with migrant exporting countries , the wall can be built in the border areas of the two countries and the economy of the border areas can be developed, so that migrants do not want to smuggle; the fourth, with the help of the United Nations, the International Organization for Migration, the International Labor Organization and other international organizations to jointly deal with illegal immigration.[6]Families of Chinese illegal immigrants who intermarry with foreign countries can be governed from the following three points: the first, they should be given legal status , enjoy the same medical and educational conditions as local residents, and reduce their dissatisfaction and resistance in their hearts. This can indirectly reduce the illegal crime rate and stabilize social order; the second, we should strengthen the education and training of illegal immigrant families, teach them production and life skills, health and health knowledge, improve their quality of life and the quality of the population, and improve the local human settlements and ecological environment; the third, provide employment opportunities, so that they can adapt to society as soon as possible, integrate into society, but also for China's economic development to create cheap labor. However, the above three pardon policies objectively become the external driving force of illegal immigrants to the Republic of China, and also provide conditions for the development of social ties of illegal immigrants in the future. Therefore, the governance of illegal immigrants' intermarriage is a long-term problem which needs more scholars to pay attention to and explore.

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