

Immigration-Related Films and Documentaries

List of Films Related to General Immigration Issues

<http://www.irle.berkeley.edu/immigration/teachers/films.html>

This link has a list of films related to Immigrant and Refugee issues, the U.S./Mexico Border, Immigrants and Race Relations, Immigration, Globalization and Economics, and Second Generation Issues.

AMDOC American Documentary List of Immigration Films

http://www.amdoc.org/outreach_filmlibrary_imm.php

Welcome to Shelbyville

Welcome to Shelbyville is a glimpse of America at a crossroads. In this one small town in the heart of America's Bible Belt, a community grapples with rapidly changing demographics. Just a stone's throw away from Pulaski, Tennessee (the birthplace of the Ku Klux Klan), longtime African American and white residents are challenged with how best to integrate with a growing Latino population and the more recent arrival of hundreds of Muslim Somali refugees.

Not in Our Town

Not In Our Town: Light in the Darkness is a one-hour documentary about a town coming together to take action after anti-immigrant violence devastates the community. In 2008, a series of attacks against Latino residents of Patchogue, New York culminate with the murder of Marcelo Lucero, an Ecuadorian immigrant who had lived in the Long Island village for 13 years.

Made in LA, 2007

Made in L.A. is an Emmy award-winning feature documentary that follows the remarkable story of three Latina immigrants working in Los Angeles garment sweatshops as they embark on a three-year odyssey to win basic labor protections from a trendy clothing retailer. In intimate verite style, *Made in L.A.* reveals the impact of the struggle on each woman's life as they are gradually transformed by the experience. Compelling, humorous, deeply human, *Made in L.A.* is a story about immigration, the power of unity, and the courage it takes to find your voice.

<http://www.madeinla.com/>

The 800 Mile Wall, 2009

Highlights the construction of the new border walls along the U.S.-Mexico border as well as the effect on migrants trying to cross into the U.S. This powerful 90-minute film is an unflinching look at a failed U.S. border strategy that many believe has caused the death of thousands of migrants and violates fundamental human rights.

<http://www.800milewall.org/>

***9500 Liberty*, 2009**

Prince William County, Virginia becomes ground zero in America's explosive battle over immigration policy when elected officials adopt a law requiring police officers to question anyone they have "probable cause" to suspect is an undocumented immigrant.

9500 Liberty reveals the startling vulnerability of a local government, targeted by national anti-immigration networks using the Internet to frighten and intimidate lawmakers and citizens. Alarmed by a climate of fear and racial division, residents form a resistance using YouTube videos and virtual town halls, setting up a real-life showdown in the seat of county government.

The devastating social and economic impact of the "Immigration Resolution" is felt in the lives of real people in homes and in local businesses. But the ferocious fight to adopt and then reverse this policy unfolds inside government chambers, on the streets, and on the Internet. 9500 Liberty provides a front row seat to all three battlegrounds.

<http://9500liberty.com/>

The Other Side of Immigration

Based on over 700 interviews in Mexican towns where about half the population has left to work in the United States, *The Other Side of Immigration* asks why so many Mexicans come to the U.S. and what happens to the families and communities they leave behind. Through an approach that is both subtle and thought-provoking, director [Roy Germano](#) provides a perspective on undocumented immigration rarely witnessed by American eyes, challenging audiences to imagine more creative and effective solutions to the problem.

<http://www.theothersideofimmigration.com/HOME.html>

Ánimas Perdidas or Lost Souls

This film travels from idyllic Southern California, where the filmmaker's Mexican-American family has lived for more than four decades, to Guadalajara, the birthplace of her uncles, and the border towns of Mexico, piecing together the tragic events that led to her uncles' deportations. Her surviving uncle has lived in Mexico now for six years and struggles every day to survive. Interviewing family members, and weaving together family photographs, letters, and verité footage, an epic story emerges about an immigrant family with a dark history of abuse, addiction and resilience. What happens when a family confronts its past, and how they have survived despite the constraints imposed by and across the U.S. border is the focus of this compelling and emotional documentary.

<http://www.animasperdidas.com/>

Mi Vida Dentro or My Life Inside, Directed by Lucía Gajá

The documentary follows Rosa, a Mexican immigrant who came to Texas in 1999 at the age of 17 and then is arrested for suspicions of homicide in 2003 and incarcerated in 2005. The judicial process, the verdict, the separation from her family, powerlessness, and being incarcerated in a foreign country makes *Mi Vida Dentro* (My Life Inside) a real look inside the lives of Mexican immigrants in the U.S.

<http://www.mividadentro.com/>

American Harvest

The documentary 'American Harvest' powerfully portrays the truth about agriculture and migrant labor in the United States at the present time. In a series of candid interviews with farmers and farmworkers from Florida to Maine the viewer objectively learns the facts and dispels the myths connected with migrant farmworkers. The film portrays the migrant reality that can't be ignored and which is rarely seen by most people. It's a must see if we are serious about the truth of migrant workers.

<http://www.americanharvestmovie.com/>

La Americana

Americana is an intimate documentary following an undocumented immigrant's journey from Bolivia to New York City and back, as she struggles to save the life of her ailing daughter. Her unforgettable story is woven into the current immigration crisis in the United States, putting a human face on this timely and controversial issue.

<http://www.la-americana.com/>