Discovering the Benefits of the DREAM Act
On Education and Labor
Raychel Kirby-Bello, Juannisha Green, Saida Bernal, Junaid Saeed
Transfer Seminar Africana Studies 320, Dr. Patricia Johnson Coxx

Introduction
The DREAM Act allows undocumented students the opportunity to have an education and become part of our society. Many of these students were brought to the U.S. at a very early age due to the decisions made for them by their parents. The DREAM Act will not only provide citizenship and education for undocumented students, but also it will benefit our economy and society.

Research Question
What are the benefits of passing the DREAM Act on education and labor?
• Our research project will look at the benefits of the DREAM Act on education and labor in the United States, as well as how undocumented citizens impact our society.

Background
• The year 2000 marked the highest period of immigration in U.S. history. Approximately 7.9 million new immigrants entered the country, and 3.7 million were believed to be undocumented.
• The DREAM Act was first introduced in 2001 during the 107th Congress as a targeted solution toward comprehensive immigration reform. DREAM stands for Develop, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors.
• The DREAM Act is bipartisan legislation that has been introduced in every Congress since 2001.
• On August 15, 2012, the DREAM Act became true law.
• The year 2000 marked the highest period of immigration in U.S. history. Approximately 7.9 million new immigrants entered the country, and 3.7 million were believed to be undocumented.

QUALIFICATIONS
• Individual (student) must have entered the United States before age 16, graduated from high school or obtained an equivalent diploma, and completed at least two years of college.
• Individual needs to have a good academic standing and performance.
• Individual would not qualify for this relief if they had committed crimes, are deemed a security risk, or are inadmissible or removable on certain other grounds.

Materials & Methods

Materials
• The materials used for this research included various peer-reviewed academic articles about our topic, in order to familiarize ourselves about the Immigration policies in the United States.
• We utilized articles from different databases, such as WorldCat and EBSCOhost, to help us uncover the pros and cons of the DREAM ACT.

Methods
Some methods that were used by the authors included reviewing and analyzing relationships across studies, plus statistical data based on results of several independent studies of the same problem. These methods are useful in helping us find the benefits the DREAM Act provides.

The Association of International Educators conducted a study on foreign-born students and their dependents. The study reviewed how much money they contribute to the U.S. economy during the academic year.

Findings
• There are an estimated 2.1 million undocumented children and young adults in the U.S. who are eligible for legal status under the DREAM Act.
• The DREAM Act would give beneficiaries access to greater educational opportunities and better jobs, which in turn means more taxable income.
• The findings are clear: immigrants drive our economy. 18% of the 2010 Fortune 500 companies were founded by an immigrant, increasing to over 40% when including companies founded by their children.

With the cutting-edge technology today, foreign-born students are necessary in our society. We need more innovators and game changers.

Undocumented students contributed almost $22 billion to the U.S. economy.

Conclusion
Immigrants play a large role in our economy. Passing the DREAM Act will not only provide education and citizenship to undocumented students, but also it will benefit our economy financially.

Immigrants are risk takers, hard workers, and very ambitious. The purpose of the DREAM Act is to provide undocumented students with equal educational rights and citizenship.

The DREAM Act will not only provide a path to better lives, but also it will help our country prepare and invest in our global economy.

References