Essay #1: Source-Based Essay on Rhetorical Situation related to Immigrants

For years, society has tried to ignore the discussion on immigration, they’ve ignored the mistreatment that immigrants face wherever they go, “immigrants do not belong” they say because they “steal” jobs from Americans, and they are “dangerous criminals.” The topic has slowly arisen into the spotlight with the help of the media, however what has grown as a result is the discrimination they face. This discussion will range from ICE, to DACA, to the fate of immigrants and what they represent in a place filled with much oppression. If only the American people knew that Immigrants came to this country for a better life for themselves and family, to work hard, and to succeed; They came with the American dream in mind. Once they arrived they were astonished by the fact that America was not everything that they hoped for. The media showed America to be full of equality and acceptance, however America is filled with people that lack understanding and compassion.

In a news article posted on the journalistic website named, “the conversation” a writer named Frans J. Schryer came to shine light on the matter of immigrants, while conducting a research operation he found immigrants willing to share their experience in America, as they shared their experiences over oppression, fear and watching similar dreams falling apart because they got deported. Schryer wrote about the effect Trump's team along with their decisions and efforts to end the future of migrants in this country, and the impact it had on the economy stating Trump was, “against immigration, yet he wants the U.S. to have a prosperous economy and to
have a competitive advantage in the global economy.” Schryer is trying to draw attention from the oblivious/naive people, to how immigrants suffer, that don't take the time to mentally place themselves in the position of an immigrant. Schryer addresses his audience with mature language, and a formal tone such to show Americans that he is someone with sufficient education to be respectful to all individuals equally. Schryer uses the word, “imagine” a total of 3 times, in the first section, he states “Imagine, for example, if you had no other choice but to move to a neighbouring country as the only way to make a decent living, and then being cut off from your family even though they live nearby.” Through the mere use of “imagine” his purpose of this article became to make these naive minds, as mentioned before, create an idea in their head of a life they are not equipped to live in, make them have compassion for immigrants who come to a new place not prepared to suffer the oppression they are exposed to. Schryer takes a stance on the immigrant side, supporting immigrants and trying to bring attention to the problem within our society.

Recently writers have taken to magazine organizations to spread awareness on immigration as well, seeing as they are trying to reach out to more younger people, with shocking images. An example of a magazine article that has spread awareness is the magazine website named, “vox.” Nicole Narea, speaks on Trump and what he has done over the years to the fate of immigrants, she speaks on how Trump has lived up to what he promised in his 2016 election campaign, on deporting many immigrants, as well as enforcing stricter and more evident laws against them, stating in the article, “The agenda he outlined has become America’s reality.” Narea's purpose was to be more informal than influential, she took on a mature language, spacing the details she collectively had and equally placing them throughout the article. Narea used a formal tone to make herself seem evidently educated in the topic, an example of such tone is
when she was speaking on an event that occurred in 2016, related to political aspects, saying “Trump’s 2016 speech in Arizona was an example of how immigration restrictionists who once occupied the political fringe — such as White House senior adviser Stephen Miller and former US Attorney General Jeff Sessions — have crystallized anti-immigrant rhetoric into policy.” Throughout the magazine article Narea does not present her stance on the topic, instead she merely gives facts on what Trump's organization has been able to succeed in, for example she repeatedly says, “Trump has.” When saying this it is evident that she is well informed on what Trump has been able to accomplish.

Another way other than newspapers and magazines that awareness is made is through social media, such as youtube. Today you see many young adults invested in shows, so why not create a documentary on immigrants that these young adults may come upon on one day. In a documentary published on youtube named, “The Wall - A Nation Divided,” uploaded on the 29th of June, 2018 by CBS news, as stated in the description, a “correspondent worker” by the name of “Mireya Villarreal traveled to the Tohono O'odham reservation, which straddles 75 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border,” an area known as a passageway for immigrants to the United States. Villarreal addresses how weak the border is but how strong the border patrol is, found in minute 2:29 where she is surprised by the border being “a bunch of sticks” as said by her. She addresses the many things that could come through on that passageway mentioning “drug traffickers, coyotes and migrants looking to enter the U.S.” as mentioned in the description of the upload as well as said in her own words during the documentary. Villarreal decided to take on this documentary not only because it was her job but also because it was an interesting topic, you can infer this through her optimistic tone throughout the whole documentary. One example of this tone, is in minute 0:45, she witnesses someone running across that deserted area between the
border of the united states and Mexico, and with an exciteful manner, using informal language and pronunciation she goes “l-l-look tur-tur--turn around look look.” Merely in the first minute you can see she is dedicated to what she will discover during her trip. Through this documentary Villarreal is not only bringing the reality of an immigrant looking for a better future to young adults, but instead, to everyone. Social media, such as youtube, brings individuals of all ages to come together to be entertained, youtube does not only work to be entertaining but also to be Informal with documentaries such as this one. Youtube is also such a big platform where many can become informed on certain issues, and in this case, the audience could be of many ages becoming informed of immigrants and their struggles. This documentary was produced to show the fears immigrants face when deciding to come to the United States, fears from sex trafficers, cartels, and the border patrol. Villarreal was a great person to take the rails in this documentary because she does not take a stance, she is simply there to shine a light on immigrants and their struggles.

All forms of sources to spread awareness about immigrants and their struggles is good, but there's one more source that requires much more research and factual data and that is a scholarly source. For example, the Scholarly source named “UC San Diego Working Papers,” written on October 18th, 2017, by Gordon H. Hansan through The Center for Comparative Immigration Studies CCIS at the University of California, San Diego. Within this source the question that is answered is “Why Does Immigration Divide America?: Public Finance and Political Opposition to Open Borders.” Hansan through this scholarly article is trying to reach out to people of an older age, those that will understand a more mature language such as the type he uses, an audience that will also understand his very formal tone that is used throughout the entirety of the article. It would seem his purpose is to inform others on his studies, he wants more
people to become aware of the politics that come into play when discussing about immigration as stated in the article under, “Sources of Political Opposition to Immigration” on page 4. Once again this writer does not state his stance on the situation but instead provides mere data, all information that he works so hard on. It is important to recognize that this is a 72 page scholarly article, within this article Hansan speaks in the U.S. Immigration Policy and Recent Immigration Trends, Immigrant Demands on Public Benefits, Public Preferences over Immigration Policy, and the necessity of Reforming U.S. Immigration Policy. To many this would not seem so interesting but it is important to know this is you are an immigrant, you must know the politics and laws that you may have to protect you, when living in a place you're not welcome in and that you fear.

The 4 sources that I chose were different in many ways, but similar as well. All spoke on immigration, maybe not all speaking the same thing but very similar. Some brought facts and politics while others focused on the more sentimental side, making the audience imagine what it would be like in the life of an immigrant. The news letter had something in common with the youtube documentary, both brought either imagined or literal images to our minds, with the newsletter we read as Schryer put an image in our heads of what it would be like as an immigrant while the youtube documentary brought us head on through the camera to what an immigrant must do and go through. Now, what the magazine and scholarly article had in common was the fact that both were factual, both did not get into what immigrants go through but instead both discussed the politics that are related to this topic. Although all 4 could be really different, they are similar in the fact that they speak on immigration, and bring a form of awareness to the topic.
Citations

- Frans J. Schryer, “America needs more, not fewer, migrant workers” (2018),
  https://theconversation.com/america-needs-more-not-fewer-migrant-workers-102627
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5o4d6Wp3u2Q&feature=youtu.be
- Nicole Narea, “A nation of immigrants no more” (2020),
- Gordon H. Hanson, “UC San Diego Working Papers” (2017),
  https://escholarship.org/content/qt0v63n81c/qt0v63n81c.pdf