Children of Immigrants

Exploring the challenges of first and second generation college students
Who are first and second generation college students?
Immigrant Generations

- “First generation” or “foreign born” refers to people born outside of the United States to parents neither of whom was a U.S. citizen.
- “Second generation” refers to people born in the United States, with at least one first generation (immigrant) parent.
- “Third and higher generation” refers to people born in the United States, including Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories with both parents born in the United States, including Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories.
Defining the Immigration Generations

All adults: Refers to the full population of 234.7 million U.S. adults (ages 18 and older).

First-generation adult: Refers to the 37.4 million immigrant adults who live in the United States but were born outside the United States or U.S. territories.

Second-generation adult: Refers to the 19.7 million U.S.-born adults who have at least one immigrant parent.

Third- and higher-generation adult: Refers to the 177.7 million adults who are the children of U.S.-born parents.
Immigration in the United States

Figure 2. Total Immigrant Population, 2000-2010 (millions)

Immigration in the United States cont.

- "The number of immigrants (legal and illegal) in the country hit a new record of 40 million in 2010, a 28 percent increase over the total in 2000."

- It is estimated that there have been 1.3 to 1.4 million new arrivals annually since 2000.
Students of Immigrant households

“There are 10.4 million students from immigrant households in public schools, accounting for one in five public school students. Of these students, 78 percent speak a language other than English at home.”
What are the challenges?
Challenges

- College readiness
- Financial struggles
- Expectations & Family obligations
- Undocumented status
College Readiness

- Many students of immigrant households require additional support after being admitted into college institutions
- English may be a second language
- Applying to college
- Creating class schedule
Financial Challenges

- Lack of financial aid
- Other financial obligations
- Lack of knowledge about resources
- Lack of parental guidance and knowledge about financial aid resources
Expectations and Family Obligations

- Some students may serve as head of household
- May hold 1 or more jobs to finance education
Undocumented Students

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0uwuXy_uBg
Undocumented Students

- Fear of disclosure
- Lack of support
- Lack of financial aid due to status
- Limited job and career options
Share Your Story!
Campus Resources

- International Students and Scholars Office
- Office of Multicultural Affairs
- Denia Gibson, Financial Aid Office
- Center for Learning and Academic Support Services (CLASS)
References

- http://www.cis.org/2012-profile-of-americas-foreign-bom-population#recent
- http://ih.constantcontact.com/fs118/1110058879587/img/2.jpg