

Does Immigration Apply to Different Types of Slavery?

Final Draft

Indentured Servitude is when people are put into a labor contract and have to work for an individual, or a landowner. Indentured servitude was created for cheap labor. Without it, the Colonists might not have made a profit, with too much land, and not enough labor. This situation could apply to farm laborers, apprentices learning a trade. They also thought that a new life in a new world offered hope. Which probably explains why $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ came to American colonies arriving as indentured servants.

In 1619, the first Africans were brought to Virginia. They were initially treated as indentured servants, and were given the same opportunity for freedom. The indentured servants typically spent 4-7 years of labor, in exchange for a better life, lodging, and freedom dues. It was not an easy life, there were harsh restrictions, but they had some laws to protect their right. A contract could be extended, if the indentured servant did something wrong, or against the laws, like running away, or for females, becoming pregnant. Contracts may include acreage, year's worth of corn, arms, a cow, and new clothes. Mostly after indentured servitude contracts were over, the people would make a new life for themselves in the New World. A life away from Europe was both exciting, and welcoming. It was often a way to immigrate to America for poor Europeans.

Indentured Servitude can be a form of immigration. Immigration is going to a new place, by choice, but mostly by circumstance. Some of the indentured weren't in great living conditions in Europe, and a life in the New World was a better opportunity than they would have had at home. But some came with no choice, or were bound to labor. Many people who immigrate to America currently, come in search of a better life but find themselves being poorly treated with

limited access to the rights of other Americans. This was similar to the conditions for indentured servants. They both are treated as less. The indentured servants were punished harshly, and current immigrants are forced out of our country, and families are being split up. Overall the circumstance the indentured servants were in, put them in the position to immigrate to America.

Racialized chattel slavery is taking big groups of people to work for free. These people are treated as others property. They are bought, sold, traded, inherited, and acquired as gifts. This type of slavery was dominating many societies through time. Many African societies used this type of slavery, especially East African countries, including Mauritania and Sudan. Chattel slavery was used in Ancient Greece and Rome as well. Throughout Mauritania and Sudan the treatment is gruesome. These places divide the African and Arab culture. Girls the age of ten are being captured. For punishments, the female genital is mutilated. In Sudan, this type of slavery is returning after a 12 year war. The black Africans in Southern Sudan have been captured for centuries in the Arab slave trade. The massive numbers of war prisoners taken during the Second Sudanese Civil War had increased. When Omar al-Bashir took over in 1989, he began to raid non- Afro Arab villages, taking both the property, and the people for slavery. The government armed Arab Militias were told to kill the men, and enslave the children and women, and take them as belongings, or take them North of Sudan to be sold and auctioned. In 1989, women and children could be brought to the people of the Nile, and sold for \$90. At least 90,000 darker skinned Africans live as property of the Muslim Berber. About 20% of the population are slaves to the North African Arabs. Which is the highest percent of slavery in the world. These people were abused, branded, bred, exploited, or killed. The branding is used with a hot metal objects, to prevent them from escape. They can be used for house and farm labor, reproduction, and breeding. This type of slavery still exists to this day. The people can be exchanged for camels, trucks, guns, or money. Many chattel slaves are born into their position,

and die in their position. When a child is born of one of the chattel slaves it becomes property of the master. Even when a slave is freed, it still has to pay tributes to their former owner.

Both current immigrants and chattel slaves find themselves with varying degrees of access to basic human rights. They get forced into a new place. Slaves get taken, and by force have to work for their owner. Immigrants, leave by circumstance, and get treated improperly in their new situation. Both don't have power over the people above them, that are unfairly, and unrightfully forcing them to do whatever they want. Chattel Slaves immigrate from one place to another based off status, or the situation they come across. They then have no rights in this new place, and are being pushed around thoughtlessly.

There are a few reasons indentured servitude led to slavery. Indentured Servants were used in the beginning of the Virginia colonies, first for cheap labor source. Later they were no longer reliable due to several reasons such as being armed for protection. Soon after, they used the guns to rob the other colonists and Bacon's Rebellion starts. Chattel slavery was less expensive and slaves were a commodity that could be bought or sold. The indentured servants price went up, so it made financial sense to the colonists. Before the civil war, slaves and indentured servants were considered personal property. Indentured Servants volunteered, but slaves were captured. The indentured servants had a better chance of escape, and slaves didn't. Both were forms of bound labor; indentured servitude set the stage for chattel slavery. While the indentured servants decreased the need for chattel slavery increased. Indentured servitude was when you pledged your service towards another person, for exchange of some benefits such as certain rights, and a free passage to a new world. Chattel slavery didn't come with any benefits, and they were enslaved for life, compared to indentured servants who work desired amount of years, based on their contract. The indentured servants are willing to work, they get transported freely, land, clothing, food, and shelter. In chattel slavery they don't get

much for their work. Sometimes they may get shelter, but if they do, they have to share it, even with it's small size. They both are owned by a person, who abuses and mistreats them. Slaves had very few rights.

Many people who came to the North were seeking religious freedom. The people of the South were often wealthy landowners, who introduced indentured servitude. There were multiple groups of people who were working to put a stop to indentured servitude, and slavery. The Quakers, Mennonites, and freed Slaves went North. The Quakers were the main protestors. The Mennonites were a religious group against slavery, because it didn't follow their religion, and beliefs. They protested by handing out pamphlets to spread the information. They also wrote to the newspapers, wondering if they could speak against both slavery, and indentured servitude. They also went to speak at religious services. There was a success later in 1750's, awareness grew, and slowly slavery ended in the northern states, and it took 100 additional years to end in the South. By 1804 the northern states began to abolish slavery, including New York in 1799, and New Jersey in 1804.

Current immigrants have been coming to America searching for a new life. They are being treated poorly just because they aren't legally here. Families are being separated, at the border, between Mexico, and the U.S.. There are many other times in the United States history where families have been split apart. During slavery, families were separated due to the fact that an individual might be captured, and now works unwillingly for someone, and can't face the punishment if they were to escape. Slaves who started families knew that they could be separated at any moment. Some of the causes of this, was when they would sell some slaves to pay debts, dividing families for punishment. In the 19th Century they would split the Native peoples children, and families, trying to guide them to be "American" and Christian. They were put into white American society, to introduce them to the arts of civilization. They then created

boarding schools for Native American children. Which were run like military training camps, where the children were abused, and neglected. The third way families have been separated through the country, was in 1942. Roosevelt signed the executive order, which allowed military people to exclude citizens from certain areas. The Japanese-Americans, living on the West Coast, were the main targets. About 120,000 of the Japanese-Americans were forced to leave their homes and jobs behind, splitting up with families to live in internment camps, that relate to today's so called detention facilities. Throughout American history, and to this day, families have been ripped apart due to the prejudices of their leaders. We need to learn from the past, to fix the present.

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