



Lessens Illegal Immigration (S4)

Editor: If UBI replaces minimum wage, manual labor could be priced at its fair-market value. Some jobs would have to pay more because people would not be desperate for work. Other simple and not-unpleasant jobs (example: picking up litter) might pay less. In these cases US citizens might do the work now done by undocumented immigrants because the pay plus UBI would be sufficiently attractive.

With citizens receiving UBI (but not immigrants) and everyone (including immigrants) paying higher taxes, being an undocumented immigrant in the US would be decidedly less attractive.
(EDITOR)

Joshua A. Miller: In a certain sense, a basic income + VAT might actually help to solve the immigration problem once and for all. Let me explain:

Many illegal immigrants now pay a portion of their incomes to dummy social security numbers that they have made up or stolen. Though they will never be able to collect benefits from the Social Security Administration, they still pay the taxes as a necessary prerequisite for employment.

...

[Illegal immigrants] come all this way just to do the jobs we don't want at a wage we won't accept, all while paying fees for services they'll never receive and suffering the contempt and persecution of the natives for whom they labor!

...

Of course, illegal immigrants don't just pay Social Security taxes; they also pay sales tax on everything they purchase! And so they would also pay the VAT, which would be much higher than the current sales taxes, and without receiving a corresponding basic income. This would make it very remunerative to have undocumented workers in the country: more money paid in VAT would mean a higher basic income payment for all citizens. So it might finally legitimate the flow of workers into the US. (JM1-AA 2011)

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Daniel G. Jennings: Is Basic Income the Solution to Illegal Immigration? {A basic income for Central America might be cheaper than detaining and deporting illegal immigrants. It would also be cheaper than Border Security measures like President Trump's Wall.} (DJ2-AA 2018)