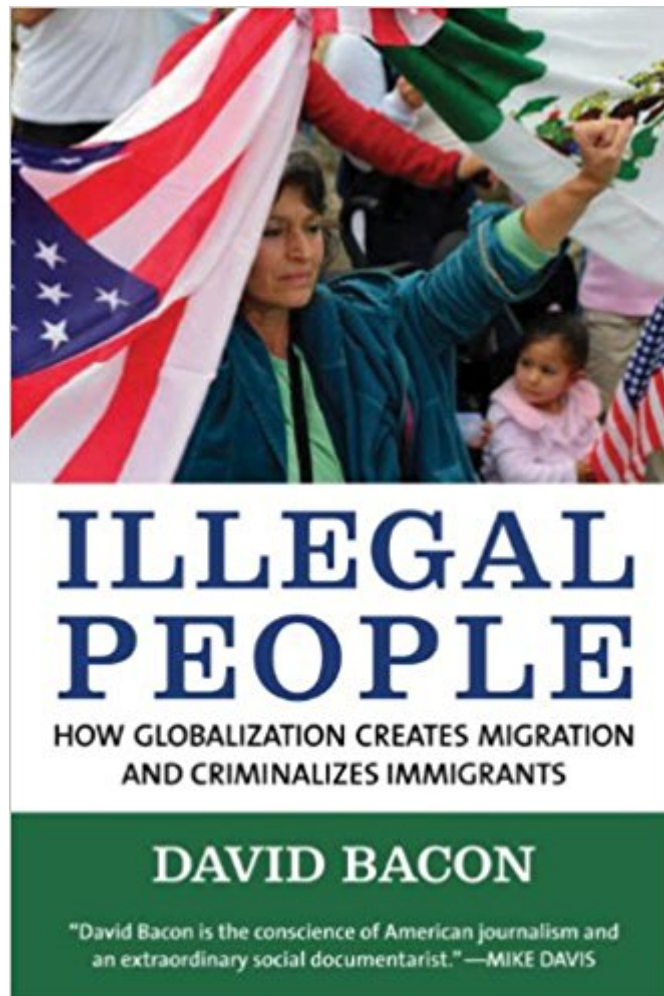




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Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration And Criminalizes Immigrants



Synopsis

For two decades David Bacon has documented the connections between labor, migration, and the global economy. In *Illegal People* he explains why our national policy produces even more displacement, migration, immigration raids, and an increasingly divided and polarized society. Arguing for a sea change in how we think, debate, and legislate about and around immigration, Bacon promotes a human rights perspective in a globalized world.

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review. In this incisive investigation of the global political and economic forces creating migration, journalist and former labor organizer Bacon offers a detailed examination of the trends transforming, for example, Mexican farmers into California farm workers. Bacon condemns efforts to criminalize illegal immigrants, noting that Congress's immigration proposals and debates take place outside any discussion of its own trade policies that displace workers and create migration in the first place. The whole process that creates migrants is scarcely considered in the U.S. immigration debate, argues Bacon, who posits that displacement and migration are two perennially necessary ingredients of capitalist growth. According to the author, the same system... produces migration needs and uses that labor while the vulnerable undocumented or guest-worker status keeps that labor controllable and cheap. Readers disinclined to consider economic rights as human rights may balk at the general direction, but Bacon's timely analysis is as cool and competent as his labor advocacy is unapologetic. In mapping the political economy of migration, with an unwavering eye on

the rights and dignity of working people, Bacon offers an invaluable corrective to America's hobbled discourse on immigration and a spur to genuine, creative action. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The persistence in calling undocumented workers "illegal" signifies the political forces that mean to demonize workers who are not U.S. citizens. But it also aptly describes the gross lack of legal rights for these workers and their families. Bacon, an award-winning photojournalist, labor organizer, and immigrant-rights activist, follows the lives of undocumented workers at the Westin Suite Hotel in California and a Smithfield meatpacking plant in North Carolina, who travel back and forth from Mexico to the U.S. He examines the economic and social forces in both countries that lure workers to a market where they can earn higher wages but are vulnerable to exploitation. Bacon goes on to analyze guest-worker programs and other developments meant to balance the needs of U.S. employers and workers. He ties together interviews, personal histories, and political analysis to provide a vivid image of what life is like for workers with little rights or protections in an increasingly globalized economy. A fascinating look at trade and immigration policies and the people directly affected by them. --Vanessa Bush --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

David Bacon, the author of *Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants* has written a monumental work detailing the root causes behind immigration to this country by people from Mexico and Latin America. Bacon, an award-winning journalist, union organizer, and historian makes an ironclad case why the United States and Canada must re-think their economic policies aimed at pillaging countries to the global south, specifically "free" trade agreements like NAFTA, CAFTA, and why we must stop bad trade deals and the instrument that rushes them through, Fast Track, currently being pushed by the Obama administration to push TPP, TTIP, and a host of other bad trade agreements currently being negotiated in secret. *Illegal People* lays out in heartbreaking detail, the systematic destruction of the Mexican economy, its unions, and Constitution, for the benefit of Big AG, Big Mining, and Big corporate interests at the expense of indigenous farmers, workers, and teachers. A must read for all people striving to understand the root causes of the current Immigrant/refugee crisis

One of the best books on this subject. It explains the forces at play that push people to make the

choice to immigrate illegally.

GREAT BOOK! REALLY RECOMMEND!

The book is current and on point. This is a topic that is making headlines daily. The service was fast and the book is in very good condition.

Has given me vital information regard the problem. A review of David Bacon's photos led me to purchase this book.

Excelent book. Explains some of the effects of globalization. Easy to read and informative. I will look for other books by Mr Bacon.

David Bacon has been fighting for the rights of working people for decades. This book is a monument to a life well spent. Bacon goes through the issues around immigration in a highly readable way. The impact of NAFTA and Neoliberalism. The dangers and hardships faced by economic refugees, documented or not. The exploitative conditions that employers force economic refugees to work under. Bacon is very good on the history of guest worker programs and how they oppress its participants. His book is a great mix of hard facts and analysis plus heart wrenching stories from the front lines. I fear that anti-immigrant sentiment may turn even uglier as the economy weakens. We desperately need the information that Bacon provides to counter the bigotry and ignorance in our work places and among our friends and family.

In *Illegal People*, labor movement veteran David Bacon asks the question of why Americans fail to appreciate the connections between issues like free trade, unionization, widening disparities between rich and poor--and immigration, a natural corollary of these and other topics. Bacon then proceeds to answer the question in a tough, thorough, and insightful work that combines straight-up political analysis with the stories of migrant workers and labor movements across the globe. Bacon's ultimate point--that western governments (especially the USA), in the service of capital, use exclusive immigration policies to undermine rights and depress wages for both native and immigrant laborers--is a sophisticated one, yet argued so brilliantly that the observation seems natural and obvious by the time he's finished.

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