



ADVERTISEMENT

**WANT TO INCREASE AMERICA'S ENERGY SECURITY?**

**CLICK TO JOIN THE FIGHT**

- Home
- Blog Row
- NRO Radio
- NRO TV
- Subscribe
- Search
- NR / Digital
- Shop!
- Donate
- Media Kit
- Appearances
- Contact
- Agenda
- Bench
- Campaign Spot
- Corner
- Brookhiser
- Kudlow
- Lib Fascism
- Media Blog
- Phi Beta Cons
- Planet Gore
- Pryce-Jones
- Tank

NRO BLOG ROW | [THE CORNER](#) | [ARCHIVES](#) | [SEARCH](#) | [E-MAIL](#) | [PRINT](#) | [RSS](#)

ADVERTISEMENT



**Subscribe to NATIONAL REVIEW for Half Price!**

**Standing Athwart Washington Liberals Yelling Stop!**

**Bonus**

**Subscribe and Receive a FREE COPY of Sound the Alarmism: NR on Global Warming, Energy, and the Environment**

# the corner

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

**Re: Immigration is the Health of the State** [[Jerry Taylor](#)]

Mark, do you have some regression analyses to back up this claim of yours that dense population = bigger and more intrusive government? Like [John Derbyshire](#), I can think of plenty of counterexamples and even more cases where lightly populated areas happen to coincide with political and economic tyranny. Even so, the claim that population density is political destiny suggests that those who seek to control family size and reproductive rights are the true freedom fighters while those of us that are queezy about such policies are "objectively statist." I don't think you would be all that happy with the policy implications of your argumer were it followed to its logical conclusion.

I don't think Mexican illegals who risk everything to come north simply to work – and to work without legal protection, without a state safety net, and without cultural affinities outside of their communities – are inherently inclined towards statism. If anything, these are the very sort of people that built this country in the first place and exactly the sort of people that conservatives ought to be able to reach. These immigrants are by and large anxious to work (hard!) and are literally willing to risk life and limb to move themselves and their families out of poverty. Rather than sit home and wait for the state to save them, they took matters in their own hands, braved death, and came here looking for opportunity with nobody guaranteeing them anything. Statists indeed.

Of course, when significant elements from one of our two leading political parties use rhetoric that paints these brave, hard working immigrants as something akin to a social, political, and economic cancer, it's no wonder they gravitate towards the other political party. And in this case, it happens to be the party selling the state. But if socialism were in their DNA, you would have a hard time explaining the major shift in political behavior of these immigrants over the years. Republicans like George Bush as governor of Texas used to get their votes. No longer. Obviously, political dynamics effect voting behavior a great deal.

My fundamental premise is this: If A wants to hire B and B wants to work for A, it is of no business of C's. In this case, however, we're told that C has a legitimate complaint because B is from somewhere that C doesn't like. I have yet to hear a good



Get **\$75** when you open online a select new **PNC PERSONAL CHECKING ACCOUNT** with qualifying direct deposit.

**Apply online now. >>**

**PNC**  
LEADING THE WAY

**Web offer.**  
Click for details.  
PNC Bank. Member FDIC