



**A HISTORY OF IMMIGRATION AND THE UNITED STATES (Handout)**

THE UNITED STATES IS A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS. EXCEPT FOR NATIVE AMERICANS, ALL Americans are immigrants or are the descendants of immigrants. Immigrants choose to come to the United States for various reasons: to live in freedom, to practice their religion freely, to escape poverty or oppression, and to make better lives for themselves and their children.



Long before Europeans, Native Americans lived on the land that is now the United States of America.



The people who founded the United States of America came from Europe about four hundred years ago.



Many immigrants from Ireland, Scotland, and Eastern Europe came to the United States during the 1800's and 1900's.



Many Africans came to the United States hundreds of years ago.

Immigrants and refugees from Asia, South America, and the Pacific have made the United States their home.



Immigrants bring to the United States a pride in their heritage, and cultural traditions and values.

