**Immigration Activity**

**Procedure:** Divide class into groups of three to four students. After distributing the activity worksheet to each student, instruct students that they are to serve as an immigration board that operated around 1880. Ten immigrants have applied for entrance into the United States, but the board can only accept five immigrants. The job of the board is to determine which five get to enter the United States and which five are rejected entrance. The group must also provide a written explanation for each decision. Each group will turn in one worksheet.

Applicant #1

* The applicant was born in Great Britain to wealthy parents.
* Even though the applicant lived a privileged childhood, it was unhappy.
* The parents were not involved in the applicant’s childhood, and the applicant was virtually raised by a nanny.
* The applicant was sickly as a child.
* The applicant scored poorly in school and school records report the applicant as angry, headstrong, and troublesome.

Applicant #2

* The applicant was the illegitimate son of a successful sugar plantation owner.
* Both the mother and the father are illiterate.
* Applicant was raised as a Catholic.
* Rebellious as a child, at the age of thirteen he helped organize a strike at his father’s sugar plantation.

Applicant #3

* The applicant is one of nine children.
* Both mother and father are immigrants from Ireland.
* Persistent heath problems during his early childhood.
* Served in the military and finished his career in politics.

Applicant #4

* The applicant is the son of a keyboard player and a teacher.
* Applicant was very studious, and set school records in sports.
* The applicant is self-described as lazy and average.
* Applicant is very experienced in entertainment.

Applicant #5

* The applicant was the fourth of six children born in Austria.
* The applicant was an average student, an introvert, and a passionate artist.
* Applicant served in First World War, and was rewarded for bravery.
* Applicant was jailed for treason, but eventually brought a struggling country to power.

Applicant #6

* Applicant was born to a film editor; father is unknown.
* The applicant spent her childhood in and out of foster homes.
* Applicant went on to work in entertainment, and became very successful.
* The applicant was suspected to be involved in a political scandal.

Applicant #7

* Applicant was the oldest of five children.
* The applicant left home at a young age and worked several different jobs.
* Applicant was the center of several crimes.
* Applicant was a skilled military leader, and worked to overthrow a dictatorship.

Applicant #8

* Applicant was born to carpenter in the Middle East.
* The applicant had a very humble birth, but throughout his life rose to greatness.
* Applicant was a renowned teacher, and his teachings are still widely used today.
* The applicant was poor, and little personal information is known. Cannot present any legal documents.

Applicant #9

* Applicant was born into money, and lived privileged childhood.
* The applicant did well in school, and went on to become a successful businessman.
* Applicant went on to have major influence in entertainment and politics.
* The applicant is often involved in controversy, and has been the center of several political, moral, and business scandals.

Applicant #10

* This applicant holds a four-year degree from a university.
* His father raised applicant. The mother was absent most of his life.
* Has not had any record of violence, arrest, or wrong doing during his lifetime.
* This applicant has had a few health problems.
* Applicant has been a teacher and works well with people.