

AN IMPORTANT NEW JOURNAL

We are pleased to announce the launching of a new quarterly journal called
THE SOCIAL CONTRACT --

A Reader on Public Issues and Public Policy in the Inter-related Fields of...

- Human Population
- International Migration
- Language, Assimilation, National Unity
- Balancing Individual Rights and Civic Responsibilities

...All considered in the context of a Social Contract.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS NEW JOURNAL?

Just over two decades ago, concern over rapidly growing human population led to the development of the so-called "population movement" aimed at reducing the rate of population growth, both at home and abroad. At home, for a variety of reasons, birth rates fell sharply to sub-replacement levels. Immigration, however, grew steadily due, in significant measure, to the burgeoning population overseas. Today, human numbers world wide expand at about 10,000 per hour, a quarter of a million each day.

The combined circumstances of low birth rates and high immigration pressures pose for all the developed countries the three most fundamental questions of immigration policy:

1. Of the many millions who would like to come, how many shall we admit?
2. Who will be chosen to immigrate, and what should the criteria be for choosing?
3. How shall we enforce the rules we decide upon?

THE SOCIAL CONTRACT seeks to explore and illuminate these questions, by publishing new material, and also by pulling together and reprinting existing works from many now-scattered sources. This will provide, for the first time, a periodical devoted to the inter-related topics of:

- Human population questions, including its absolute size, rate of growth, and distribution. In nations with low natural increase and high immigration, the latter is a significant component of population growth. (Reasonably, policy on immigrant numbers should derive from an overall policy on population size.)
- Immigration policy, especially as it relates to the three basic policy questions mentioned above: how many, who, and how?
- Language, assimilation, and national unity considerations, which in large measure derive from and are driven by immigration and assimilation policies.
- The balance of individual rights and civic responsibilities, since, as with many issues today, population, immigration and language questions are often framed in terms of 'rights.' What is the proper balance of individual and community rights and interests?

(over, please)

Our method for approaching these connected issues is the time-honored concept of "The Social Contract." Most great public issues are at bottom moral and ethical ones: What is the right thing to do? How do we decide what we think is right? When 'rights' collide, which ones shall take precedence?

The discipline of thinking through these issues in terms of a Social Contract allows one to achieve a balance: of individual and community interests; of the short and the long term; and of utopian idealism and the realities of the world we live in.

But most importantly, THE SOCIAL CONTRACT is not a detached forum for discussion in some backwater of life. Our issues are all in the forefront of public policy discussions in the United States, which is our primary focus. Our Associate Editors are drawn from many of the main organizations trying to influence the course of policy in the issue areas we have chosen. Our journal is one of the tools they use to raise questions, debate themes, and communicate ideas, to encourage vigorous public debate and subsequent changes in our laws and public policies.

We invite you to take part in this Great Debate by subscribing to

THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

and receiving four issues of thought-provoking material each year.

- Press - Complimentary Individual Subscription \$25
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For those who would like to support this non-profit effort beyond the basic subscription costs, we offer these higher level subscriptions. Donations above the \$25 amount are tax-deductible.

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