

The H-1B Work Visa History, Loopholes and Scapegoats

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April 19, 2017

URL for these slides (repeated on final slide):
<http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/EEOC.pdf>

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- *Scapegoating*
The Infosyses are no angels, but they are being unfairly scapegoated.

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- Recent 60 Minutes episode, unfortunately, continued that scapegoating.

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- Common sense: Wages basically flat (see OES data), so no shortage.

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What then is so attractive to tech employers about the
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- **Reduced labor costs**
- **Immobile workers**, especially under green card sponsorship.

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- Type II: Younger foreign workers cost less than older (35+) Americans. This really is the crux of the H-1B problem with the Intels.

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- Famous anti-poaching collusion case (Google, Apple) wasn't really about wages; it was about immobility.

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 - NOT a matter of discrimination on the basis of national origin. The Indian engineer with a green card is not exploitable and thus suffers the same difficulties as the U.S. natives.

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 - Novel new titles, e.g. Junior Software Engineer (HP).

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 - Immobility also enables wage exploitation, e.g. smaller raises.

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- There are plenty of U.S. citizens, permanent residents who could do this work.

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 - Replaces the old H-1 visa, which had emphasized bringing in **outstanding talents**.

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The H-1B
Work Visa
History,
Loopholes and
Scapegoats

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For More Information

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- These slides: <http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/EEOC.pdf>
- Some of my research papers:
<http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/Mich.pdf>,
<http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/MigLtrs.pdf>,
<http://www.epi.org/publication/bp356-foreign-students-best-brightest-immigration-policy/>
- My blog: normsaysno.wordpress.com
- My bio: <http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/matloff.html>

I wish to express my deep appreciation to EEOC staffers SirithoN Thanasombat and Linda Li for inviting me to present in this discussion.