

# 13.1.4

## Opposition to Immigration



## Paragraph 1

Some Americans were alarmed by the **number of immigrants** coming to America.

Americans feared immigrants would bring **changes to society**.

These fears came from **prejudice-** assumptions made about groups of people.

## Paragraph 2

Some Americans feared **wage cuts** due to the low wages being taken by immigrants.

Some feared the German immigrants might try to **modify our change our government.**

Some Americans feared **taxes would rise** as the population was flooded with immigrants.

## Paragraph 3

It was suggest to pass **nativist laws** that favored native born Americans over immigrants.

Most **Americans were Protestant** and many european **immigrants were Catholic.**

Anti-catholic attacks on immigrant churches were **inspired out of fear** of change by Americans.



NATIVE AMERICANS.

BEWARE OF

FOREIGN INFLUENCE

## Paragraph 4

**Nativists** become stronger organizing the **Know Nothing Party**- a political party designed to keep **Americans in power**.

If asked about policy, members would say *“I don't know anything.”*

They wanted immigrants to have to wait **21 years to become a citizen**.

## Paragraph 5

By 1855, 43 out of 234 members of congress were in the Know Nothing party.

Many members were involved in “shady” business which lost popularity overall for the party.

**Slavery** divided the party in 1860