



ESL Education in US Public Schools: Best Practices for a Demographic in Need



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The Problem

- Immigrants comprise 13.4% of population
 - Require extra educational attention, yet shortage of ESL educators
 - *Plyler v. Doe*
- *To what extent are the education policies directed towards immigrant students adequate for those they are applied to?*
 - The current policies in place for immigrant students do not consistently and wholly meet their educational needs, but improvements can be made if more personalized education practices and more consistent educator standards are put in place.

The Analytic Framework

Personalized Education

- Individualized Education Plans
- Access to Educational Resources
- Small Class Sizes

Teacher Preparation

- Undergraduate Teaching Experience
- Content vs. Linguistics Education Styles
- Impact of Obtaining a Master's Degree in ESL



The Method

- Two step Pattern Matching process
 - Needs of the students
 - Proposed solutions
 - Personalized Education
 - Teacher Preparation
- Hypothesis:
 - The needs of the immigrant students in the American public school system outweigh the assistance that is currently being provided to them, and better tools exist and can be implemented.

The Findings

Education of ELL Students in America Currently		
<i>Graduation Rates</i>	<i>Standardized Test Scores</i>	<i>Number of ESL Educators</i>
67% - substandard by defined standards	ELLs scored significantly below proficiency level	Less than 1 educator per school/district
Personalized Education		
<i>Individualized Education Plans</i>	<i>Resources Available to Students</i>	<i>Class Size</i>
1.4% of students have IEPs - 2.25% should have them	Up to half a million students unable to access ESL resources or programs	16-26 student average
Teacher Preparation		
<i>Undergraduate Student Teaching</i>	<i>Content vs. Linguistic Education</i>	<i>Importance of Master's Degree</i>
No time requirements before achieving certification	CBI more beneficial, with elements of LBI mixed in to reinforce ideas taught	More theory should be integrated into undergraduate curriculums

The Recommendations

- Increased Attention
- Thorough Reporting
- IEPs for All ELL Students
- Country Wide Standards
 - For Education
 - For Educators

