Fitzgerald

Key Ideas Shared in Class discussion of primary source document on Nativism:

excerpt from Basic Principles of the American Party of Virginia

There must have been a lot of people who supported these ideas.

They thought they had enough votes to elect a president.

They are afraid.

They think the immigrants will become more powerful than they are.

There are a lot of immigrants, and the immigrants, and majority rules.

They think immigrants will have more votes than them.

They think immigrants will only vote for other immigrants, so they don't want to let immigrants get elected.

They think immigrants want to change America.

Immigrants come here because they like America.

They want immigrants they say are "worthless."

They say immigrants are worthless because they say immigrants are criminals and poor.

They never give any proof that immigrants are criminals.

They act like immigrants are poor because they are lazy.

Immigrants work really hard in America.

The women work as servants, and the men work on building the canals and the railroads.

This work helps America.

They believe immigrants are not smart.

Immigrants are smart but they didn't have an education because they did not have schools in their countries.

Immigrants would work hard in American schools because they want an education.

Some people think these things about immigrants today.

Some people want to build a wall to keep immigrants out.

This document is from Virginia, but most of the immigrants were in cities in the North, like New York and Boston.