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Postwar Immigrant America Affiliation: Give a cultural assessment of the impact of restrictive immigration policies in the U. S. from the Chinese Exclusion Act to the Quota Acts to what degree did these measures achieve their goals?

The restrictive immigration policies including the Quota Acts of 1921 and the Immigration Act of 1924 aimed to reduce the number of immigrants moving into the United States and especially those from Middle Eastern nations like Asia. According to these immigration policies, the aim was to reduce the ethnic composition of the nation and avoid America having too many non-native Americans. These laws were however discriminatory of the cultures as they were strict on Asian countries including even the number of quotas they were allowed or the citizenship process through naturalization while they were relaxed or almost non-existent on the Latin American nations (Koven & Gotzke, 2010).

The impact of the above mentioned immigration policies and especially the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1943 was that the total number of these Asian aliens in America became negligible compared to other races like Germans and Italians who had no such harsh immigration restrictions. This therefore fulfilled one goal of the immigration policies of having minimal racial preponderance and especially from the Middle Eastern nations (Ueda, 1994).

The other impact that is present even today is that due to the open cultural discrimination in these restrictive immigration policies, the relationship between the United States and the Middle Eastern nations started becoming strained. The strain led to cold war between these two regions with the

Middle Eastern nations aiming to outdo the United States economically,  
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politically and even in military strength. The economic war has been the strongest and has proved to be tough on American manufacturers who are constantly being outdone by Asian manufacturers and especially technologically (Daniels, 2005).

Give a cultural assessment of the factors that led to the 1965 Immigration Act. How has the act transformed the U. S.?

The Immigration Act of 1965 was a tremendous improvement from the one in 1924. It abolished the quota system in immigrations and was determined on permitting into their country immigrants who had skills and or relatives in the United States. This abolishment was especially aimed at removing the cultural restrictions on citizens of Eastern Asia and part of Eastern and Southern Europe who had been the target of the 1924 Immigration Act.

The factors that facilitated this change in immigration policies was the so called embarrassment it caused the United States by making the country become a culturally discriminatory one. The previous Act according to then president Lyndon was against the principle of American democracy which aimed at ensuring equality. The congress of the time also wanted to establish a good relationship with the Asian countries which seemed to have started flourishing economically. There were also internal and external geopolitical pressures since the United States had just become the superpower after World War II (Lerner, 2012).

The implementation of this Immigration Act of 1965 has increased the racial diversity of the United States to an all-time high number. The United States has become a home to foreigners who have not only taken over the economic system but also the education system among other areas. The

demographic revolution in United States according to the US Census has led <https://assignbuster.com/two-questions-eight-hundred-words-a-peice-12-pitch-double-space/>

to cultural shifts due to the mixed races present in that nation. The increase in different races has also significantly reduced cases of ethnic and racial discrimination in that country as more of the foreigners become citizens by naturalization or even through birth (Machate, 2011).

#### References

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