Official language movement essay

Education, Teaching



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Week7 ETH125 CheckPoint, Official Language Movement T. Hill Many immigrants fear bilingual education because it is associated with disadvantage, alienation, and cultural deprivation. Many of them do not want to pass their native language on to their children because they consider English to be more socially and economically valued.

(Linton, 2004) The loss of a mother tongue by language minority children has severe consequences. Not only does it threaten to inhibit academic advancement, communication within the family slowly deteriorates because parents and children only speak the same language when it is necessary. Consequently, lacking communication that would normally teach developmental values, children suffer emotionally and feel isolated. In the transition stage of teaching English to these children, they drop their mother tongue, and by this, are at an academic disadvantage. In contrast, fluently bilingual teenagers did better in school, had higher aspirations for their future, and enjoyed better mental health (Yu Lu, 1998). Establishing a national official language opponents say that it is undemocratic and believe it would violate the US constitutions protection of due process and equal protection. Proponents say that English only laws would save the government money in printing fees and single lingual publication (Mount 2010). References Bender, S (2001).

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