

**Paper#:** K184

## **IMMIGRATION AND NEO-LIBERALISM: THREE STORIES AND COUNTER ACCOUNTS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This paper argues that as states attempt to gain competitive economic advantages under advanced capitalism, contemporary immigration policies are driven by neo-liberalist restructuring and thinking. Accounting technologies are employed to count people, and monitor organisations and people through information profiling, reponsibilization and expanding knowledge networks. These rationalities facilitate the seeing of people only in terms of economics and market rationalities. The paper argues for critical accounting researchers to contribute to immigration debates by unmasking this myth underpinning immigration discourses, and rather to see immigrants as social agents with capabilities and aspirations. The paper suggests that it is through the narratives and stories of immigrants that this counter accounting for immigration may be developed. The paper provides three case studies from the US, the UK and Canada to illustrate the impacts of neo-liberalistic thinking on immigration and to provide counter accounts through immigrant stories.

**Keywords:** immigration, neo-liberalism, critical accounting, stories, governance.