

# Assignment #7

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There are a few different angles that this paper could be written. One could begin with economic, religion, race, or even politics. I decided to focus on the economic status and the financial means of immigration for both, America and Europe and how the British monopolized the world. The British were the dominating force behind immigration. If one looks at the earliest time frame for America, the British sent ships over to the New World in 1609 with men, in the beginning. Eventually, woman and children, or families as a whole, would come over to begin a new life for themselves. Britain could not handle the population size that just kept growing. Undenounced to them, the British people had no clue what they were getting themselves into when entering the New World. Many individuals were accustomed to a lifestyle, and in the New World, everything from shelter, food, and water, the basic necessities, didn't exist. The lack of common sense that came with the immigration, many died...quickly. The British decided that they needed to weed or possibly thin out some of the "unwanted" population by sending criminals, murders and rapist to the New World, just to be rid of them. The British continued this for many decades.

The British Rule also had the power and means to control India and Pakistan. Elizabeth Buettner expresses how the Britain inequality between colonizers and colonized, India's textile market and the local benefits once bestowed, were taken for granted.<sup>1</sup> In other words, when the colonizing nation had thrived at the expense of the colonized. A point that really drove the statement home was when Gandhi made a proclamation in 1931, "The British Empire is an Empire only because of India."<sup>2</sup> India wanted come out from under the British Rule and become an independent country. However, if India were to become independent, the country, as a whole,

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<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Buettner, *Europe after Empire* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), 32.

<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Buettner, *Europe after Empire* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), 37.

would lose the financial backing of the British Empire. But, we all know that nothing is ever that easy. The dissolution of both, India and Pakistan broke from the British Raj (as India called it) in August 1947.

As Buettner explains in *Europe after Empire*, the dominance that Britain over most of the world, Zahra describes the immigration in *The Great Departure* that occurs on the Americas, as emigrants are coming from Europe in search of a better opportunity, or so they thought.

“Between 1846 and 1940, 55 to 58 million Europeans moved to North and South America ... Austria-Hungary was the top supplier of migrants to the United States, sending more than 2 million.”<sup>3</sup> The irony of reading this statement, in the earlier times, British were *trying* to remove/evict patrons to an area of unknown, in hopes of profiting from its people and off of the land. In the late twentieth century and early twenty-first century, emigrants were *wanting* to leave their home country, in spite of the unknown in hopes to make a better life for themselves in the new country. “The sudden departure of millions of citizens to foreign lands sent shock waves across Europe and the Atlantic.”<sup>4</sup> With the departure of millions of Europeans, religious, military officials, landowners were left with almost nothing. Churches pews were scarce, peasants were not showing up for the duty of harvesting crop, and Government type facilities, didn’t have the man-power as it once intended. The threat from many having “American fever”, families worried that it would destroy individuals, families, and nations.

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<sup>3</sup> Tara Zahra, *The Great Departure*, (W.W. Norton & Company, 2016), 4.

<sup>4</sup> Tara Zahra, *The Great Departure*, (W.W. Norton & Company, 2016), 5.

## Bibliography

Buettner, Elizabeth. *Europe after Empire: Decolonization, Society, and Culture*. Cambridge University Press, 2016.

Zahra, Tara. *The Great Departure: Mass Migration from Eastern Europe and the Making of the Free World*. W.W. Norton & Company: New York and London, 2016.