

# Illegal Alien

## Impact of this Phrase

This phrase is used to describe someone who is living in the US without authorization. It also works to dehumanize people who are denied the opportunity to obtain US citizenship by reducing people (with various histories and reasons for how and why they arrived in the US) to a criminal act.

## Alternatives to this Phrase

If we are not conscious of the impact that our words carry, we may inadvertently use the power of our voice to oppress and degrade others. Here are some alternative phrases/words that can be used to transform how we understand and relate with each other through our daily interactions:

- Unauthorized migrant
- Person living in the country without legal permission
- Person living in the country illegally
- Undocumented person

Whether or not we understand the power of our words, we still use them...



*so what kind of impact do you want to make?*

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