

Socioeconomic consequences of Japanese American internment in the United States during World War II

Abstract

This bachelor thesis describes the consequences of wartime internment of Japanese Americans in the USA. It is concerned with short- and long-term socioeconomic effects of the incarceration. The first part of the thesis introduces Japanese immigration to the United States and the struggle of the pacific states to reduce it. The next chapter informs the reader about the internment itself, including its causes, process and the reasons of its termination. The third part is concerned with the socioeconomic status of the community between the two world wars. The main focus of the chapter is to tell why Japanese Americans chose agriculture and small farming over other professional fields. The socioeconomic consequences of the internment are analyzed in the main chapter. The study reflects the short- and long-term effect of incarceration on Japanese Americans. The conclusion overviews the findings of the thesis and also provides a quick summary of the redress movement which achieved a formal apology and financial compensation to the survivors of the internment. The main focus of the work is to analyze the post-internment shift from agricultural occupations to other fields, to review the economic losses and to document the long-term reduction of wages of the internees and their offspring.