

Many U.S. Immigrants' Children Seek American Dream Abroad

Samir N. Kapadia seemed to be on the rise in Washington, moving from an internship on Capitol Hill to jobs at a major foundation and a consulting firm. Yet his days, he felt, had become routine.

By contrast, friends and relatives in India, his native country, were telling him about their lives in that newly surging nation. One was creating an e-commerce business, another a public relations company, still others a magazine.

"I'd sit there on Facebook and on the phone and hear about them starting all these companies and doing all these dynamic things," recalled Mr. Kapadia, 25, who was born in India but grew up in the United States. "And I started feeling that my 9-to-5 life wasn't good enough anymore."

Last year, he quit his job and moved to Mumbai.

In growing numbers, experts say, highly educated children of immigrants to the United States are uprooting themselves and moving to their ancestral countries. They are embracing homelands that their parents once rejected with contempt but that are now economic powers. (...)

Enterprising Americans have always sought opportunities abroad. But this new wave underscores the evolving nature of global migration, and the challenges to American economic supremacy and competitiveness.

Their decisions to leave have, in many cases, troubled their immigrant parents. Yet most said they had been pushed by the dismal hiring climate in the United States or pulled by prospects abroad.

Mr. Kapadia is now a researcher in a new foreign-policy research organization in Mumbai. "People here are running much faster than the people in Washington."

(...)

258 words

Adapted from the New York Times