

“The Situation of Children in Immigrant Families in the United Kingdom”

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Abstract: This report examines the situation of children in immigrant families in the United Kingdom based on research evidence and new analysis of the most recently available census data in 2001. The report includes research and data relating to all children in immigrant families, including foreign-born children who have immigrated to the United Kingdom and children who each have been born in the United Kingdom to at least one foreign born parent at the time of census 2001. The families fall into a variety of immigration categories, including refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants who have come to the United Kingdom to work or study or to join family members and who have permission to remain on a temporary or permanent basis. The report indicates that children in immigrant families are more likely than children in native-born families to live in two-parent households. It appears that mothers and fathers in immigrant families exhibit significantly higher educational attainment than mothers and fathers in native-born families. However, the evidence on the performance of immigrant families in the labour market is mixed. There is some evidence that places in compulsory education are not always available for immigrant children and there are differential outcomes in education across minority groups.