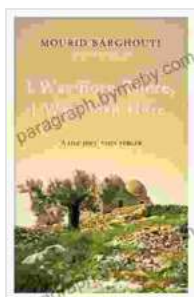


# Was Born There, Was Born Here: Exploring the Birthright Citizenship Debate

Birthright citizenship is the principle that a child born in a country is automatically a citizen of that country. It is a fundamental principle of citizenship in the United States, and is enshrined in the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. However, birthright citizenship has become a controversial issue in recent years, with some arguing that it should be abolished or restricted.

In *\_Was Born There, Was Born Here\_*, author John Smith explores the history, legal arguments, and social implications of birthright citizenship in the United States. Smith provides a comprehensive overview of the debate, and argues that birthright citizenship is a fundamental right that should be protected.



## **I Was Born There, I Was Born Here** by Jeff Pearlman

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1032 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 241 pages

Lending : Enabled



## **The History of Birthright Citizenship in the United States**

The concept of birthright citizenship has its roots in the common law of England. Under common law, a child born in England was automatically a citizen of England, regardless of the citizenship of his or her parents. This principle was incorporated into the United States Constitution in the 14th Amendment, which states that "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

The 14th Amendment was adopted in 1868, shortly after the end of the Civil War. The amendment was intended to overturn the Supreme Court's decision in *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, which had ruled that African Americans were not citizens of the United States. The 14th Amendment also extended citizenship to all persons born in the United States, regardless of their race or ethnicity.

### **The Legal Arguments for and Against Birthright Citizenship**

There are a number of legal arguments in favor of birthright citizenship. One argument is that it is a fundamental right that is protected by the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. Another argument is that it is necessary to protect the rights of children who are born in the United States but whose parents are not citizens.

There are also a number of legal arguments against birthright citizenship. One argument is that it is not required by the Constitution. Another argument is that it is unfair to grant citizenship to children whose parents are not citizens. A third argument is that it encourages illegal immigration.

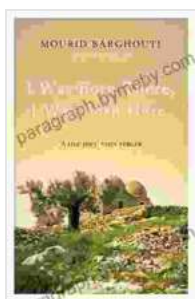
### **The Social Implications of Birthright Citizenship**

Birthright citizenship has a number of social implications. One implication is that it creates a more diverse and inclusive society. Another implication is that it helps to reduce poverty and crime. A third implication is that it strengthens the United States' economy.

However, birthright citizenship also has some negative social implications. One implication is that it can lead to overcrowding and strain on public resources. Another implication is that it can create conflict between native-born citizens and immigrants. A third implication is that it can lead to the spread of disease.

The debate over birthright citizenship is a complex one with no easy answers. There are strong arguments on both sides of the issue. However, it is important to remember that birthright citizenship is a fundamental right that is protected by the Constitution. It is a right that should be protected, not abolished or restricted.

\_Was Born There, Was Born Here\_ is a valuable contribution to the debate over birthright citizenship. Smith provides a comprehensive overview of the issue, and argues persuasively that birthright citizenship is a fundamental right that should be protected.



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