

## From the Planners' Bookshelf...

### ***Shaping Our Nation: How Surges of Migration Transformed America and Its Politics.***

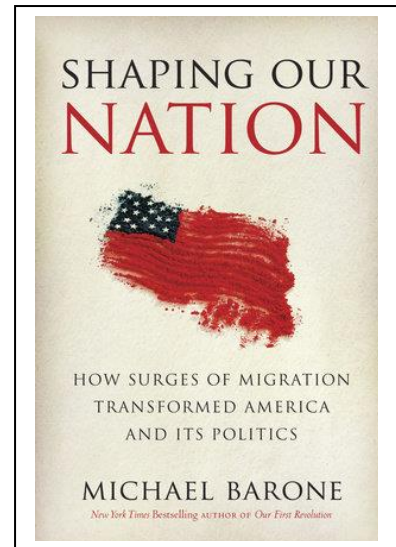
Michael Barone, Crown Forum, New York, 302 pages, 2013.

#### **Summary.**

***Shaping Our Nation*** provides a great perspective on American society and the culture of urban America and its cities. The impact of different waves of immigrants is nicely illustrated in ***City of the Century, The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America*** by Donald L. Miller.

This book is intense and dense; every sentence has information or insights about our history, where we came from and how the cultural traits from Europe, Asia and Latin America created the emotional landscape upon which to build the twenty-first American century.

In the author's words: *"Americans have developed a capacity and a habit of accommodating and uniting into one nation citizens with very serious and deep differences. Americans have been doing that now for a very long time, going back to the Founding Fathers, with their formula of limited government, civic equality, and tolerance of religious and cultural diversity. It is our responsibility, as we contemplate unanticipated surges of immigration of the future, to carry forward that tradition."*



#### **From...** The American Enterprise Institute

#### **Bradley Lecture**

**"Shaping our nation: How surges of migration transformed America and its politics."**

**LINK:** <https://www.aei.org/events/shaping-our-nation-how-surges-of-migration-transformed-america-and-its-politics/>

"Did America become culturally diverse in only the past quarter century, or has the country in fact been diverse since its beginning? During a Bradley Lecture at AEI on Monday evening, AEI's own Michael Barone revealed how surges of migrations to and within America shaped the political and socioeconomic spheres of the nation, topics which he explores in his just-released book, "Shaping Our Nation."

"According to Barone, the four surges of migration were the Scots-Irish, who arrived before and after the Revolutionary War; the Irish and German migrations that began with the 1846 potato famine; the early-20th century Ellis Island migration of Southern Europeans, Slavs, Slovaks, and Jews; and finally,

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the recently tapered migration of Latin Americans that began in the 1970s. Aside from those surges, stressed Barone, internal movement also altered the landscape of America.

“Barone predicted that in the future, there will be a surge in Asian or Sub-Saharan African immigration. As in the past, these immigrants will struggle to assimilate, but Barone suggested a ready-made solution to this challenge: the US Constitution. Cohesion was something the founders grappled with when forming a union out of 13 disparate and culturally diverse colonies. Because of this, they created what Barone calls a “ready and useful template” for bringing all types of people together to form a unified yet multicultural nation.”

—Laura Lalinde

### From...**YOUTUBE**...

**Shaping Our Nation:** Michael Barone on How Immigration Transformed America's Politics

“The great Michael Barone sits with Glenn Reynolds to discuss his new book *Shaping Our Nation*. Barone reminds viewers of America's long tradition of cultural diversity. In fact, diversity is as old as the nation itself, and the Founding Fathers knew it.”

Published on Oct 1, 2013, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfXcclj\\_Le0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfXcclj_Le0)

### Published Review

**BOOK REVIEW: 'Shaping Our Nation'**

By Henry Olsen - Special to The Washington Times, Sunday, November 3, 2013

**SHAPING OUR NATION: HOW SURGES OF MIGRATION TRANSFORMED AMERICA AND ITS POLITICS**

By [Michael Barone](#), Crown Forum, \$27, 302 pages

“Reading Michael Barone on politics and demography is like sampling a tasting menu prepared by a fine chef. His latest offering, *Shaping Our Nation: How Surges of Migration Transformed America and Its Politics*,’ does not disappoint.”

**Read more:** <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/nov/3/book-review-shaping-our-nation/#ixzz2rFXZa17q>