Discussion Questions for Immigration Debate:

1. The new immigration law passed by Arizona was necessary due to rising crime and the demand for law enforcement to keep our neighborhoods safe.

2. The new immigration law in Arizona is nothing less than racial profiling or the practice of police targeting certain ethnic groups due to their physical characteristics.

3. Only the federal government has implicit power to control immigration in the U.S. (US Constitution, Art. 1, Sect. 8, Clause 4: The Congress shall have the power to establish a uniform rule of naturalization)

4. Since the majority of illegal immigrants are concentrated in four-five main states, the states have the right to pass their own immigration laws based on what is best for their citizens.

5. Congress should consider changing the 14th Amendment to deny children born in the U.S. automatic citizenship if a parent is an illegal immigrant in the U.S.

6. Obtaining US citizenship for their unborn child is not a compelling reason for many illegal immigrants to cross the border illegally and does not contribute to the problem.

7. The answer to the illegal immigrant problem in the U.S. is to tighten border security (border patrol and better fence) and make a concerted effort to find and deport all illegal immigrants.
8. The illegal immigrant problem should be addressed by providing a path for illegals to become citizens. Pay fines, learn English, obey the laws, and wait your turn to be considered for citizenship.

9. The Guest worker Visa program would stop many of the Illegal immigrants from crossing the border. The U.S. should create two new guest worker programs (one for farmworkers and one for low-wage workers)

10. The Guest worker Visa program would hurt unskilled Americans because these jobs would go to mainly immigrants and keep wages low for Americans

11. Undocumented immigrants actually contribute positively to our economy as workers, taxpayers and consumers.

12. Illegal immigrants put a tremendous strain on social services like education, health care and welfare.

13. Our immigration laws should be adjusted to permit greater numbers of immigrants from countries such as China and Mexico due to the unfair restrictions placed on people from these countries in the past.

14. The U.S. should expand its foreign aid programs and trade benefits for developing countries. This will reduce the number of immigrants who want to leave their countries and come to the U.S.
15. The U.S. must deny education, health care, and other social services to illegal immigrants, except in cases of emergency. (Prop. 187: denial of public benefits)

16. America should introduce a national identity card that all workers would be required to present when applying for employment and social services. This would prevent employers from hiring undocumented workers.

17. Employers should be able to hire who they want. They should not be required to make employees prove they are here legally.

18. The Dream Act should be passed by Congress. Citizenship should be awarded to immigrants who were under age 16 when they entered the country, providing they graduate from high school and complete two years of college OR serve two years in the military.

19. President Obama should have issued an Executive Order to stop the deportation of illegal immigrants under the age of 18. Since Congress could not reach an agreement on the Dream Act, the President had the right to take this action.

20. The U.S. should increase the number of visas given to highly skilled workers, including foreign graduates with advanced degrees. They should have preference for coming to the U.S.