

**Covering immigration is as complex as the laws that govern it. Journalists must grapple with swiftly-changing policies amid a fiercely competitive news climate, and a polarized public distrustful of the media.**

My goal as Director of Journalism Partnerships at Define American is to help reporters cover stories about immigrants in a more humanizing, accurate, and less sensational manner. This will emphasize the universality of their narratives, rather than the “othering” of immigrants.

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## Mentoring

Based on my 19 years as a reporter at *The New York Times*, where I covered immigration, and my experience teaching journalism students on the graduate and high school levels, I provide these services by appointment:

- Curated source lists
- Story brainstorming
- Topical fact sheets
- Guest lectures on immigration history, law, and ethics
- Newsroom webinars
- Panel moderating

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## Original Research

Data and storytelling work symbiotically. Define American’s original research aims to help journalists tell stories by giving them this data on immigration-related topics such as:

- Language usage
- Spread of disinformation
- Audience engagement
- Surveys of immigration journalism

Informed by this research, we supply tools to combat xenophobic language, suggest alternatives to quoting nativist-funded groups, and offer surprising and thoughtful reporting angles about immigrants.

See [our latest snapshot research project](#), which we also turned into a [TikTok](#).

Find Define American on social media [@defineamerican](#) and me on Twitter [@bylizrobbins](#). You can always DM me there or reach me at [lizrobbins@defineamerican.com](mailto:lizrobbins@defineamerican.com).

**About Define American** *Define American is a culture change organization that works with news media and entertainment leaders to humanize conversations about immigrants. Our founder, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas, is excited to expand the journalism partnerships platform along with Liz Robbins, who started her journalism career covering sports.*