# A Sociolinguistic Analysis of the Theme of Immigration in the American Presidential Debates between Trump and Harris in 2024

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## Abstract

The present study offers a sociolinguistic discussion of the immigration discourse featured in the 2024 presidential debates between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris.

The problem of the theme of immigration in the presidential debates between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris lies in how deeply polarized, politically charged, and linguistically manipulated the topic has become.

By using Basil Bernstein's theory of language codes and William Labov's narrative analysis,the study explores how each of the candidates utilize different linguistic strategies to constitute immigration.But Trump's rhetoric is a constrained code,moreover, Labov's framework exposes divergences in narrative form, with Trump depending on crisis-led narratives and Harris emphasizing explanatory causes and a policy sensibility.

Indeed, the findeings emphasize the way in which the choice of words can shape political narratives, reinforce ideological divisions, and have an impact on voters' perceptions. It has been concluded that the discourse of Trump uses alarmist and securitized language, depicting immigration as a national crisis that endangers American sovereignty. He uses negative word choices and strong emotive metaphors to amplify fear and advocate for extreme border protection policies. Unlike Harris, Trump sees border control policies in more humanized and procedural tones highlighting empathy, legal change, and the identity of America as a land of immigrants. She takes a characteristically rights-based stance focused on vulnerable populations, inclusion and pathways to citizenship and, most importantly, protection. This comparison sheds light on how each candidate attempts to navigate and elaborate upon sociopolitical identities through projection of policy stances using immigration policies as a primary tool for discourse.

**Keywords**: Sociolinguistics; Political discourse; Immigration; Code-switching; Narrative; Presidential debate; Trump; Harris.

# تحليل لغويٌ اجتماعيٌ لموضوع الهجرة في المناظرات الرئاسية الأمريكية بين ترامب وهاريس في عام ٢٠٢٤

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**المستخلص:**

تتناول هذه الدراسة تحليلاً لغويا اجتماعياً لخطاب الهجرة كما ورد في مناظرات الانتخابات الرئاسية الأمريكية لعام ٢٠٢٤ بين دونالد ترامب وكامالا هاريس. وتكمن إشكالية هذا الموضوع في مدى الاستقطاب الحاد، والطابع الأيديولوجي المشحون، والتحميل الدلالي المتعمّد للغة المستخدمة في مناقشة قضية الهجرة.

وباستخدام نظرية الرموز اللغوية لباسيل برنشتاين، إلى جانب تحليل السرد وفقاً لإطار ويليام لابوف، تستقصي الدراسة الأساليب اللغوية المختلفة التي يوظفها المرشحَين في تشكيل خطاب الهجرة. يظهر خطاب ترامب بوصفه مثالاً للرمز اللغوي المقيد، في حين يكشف إطار لابوف لتحليل السرد عن اختلافات بنيوية في شكل السرد؛ فيعتمد ترامب على سرديات تقودها فكرة الأزمة، بينما تركز هاريس على الأسباب التفسيرية وحس السياسات العامة.

تُبرز نتائج التحليل مدى تأثير اختيار الكلمات في تشكيل السرديات السياسية، وتعزيز الانقسامات الأيديولوجية، وتوجيه إدراك الناخبين. ومن تحليل اللغة المؤطرة للمناظرات المتعلقة بالهجرة واستراتيجيات الحملة الانتخابية، تسهم هذه الدراسة في إثراء الأدبيات اللغوية الاجتماعية وخطاب السياسة.

خلصت الدراسة إلى أن خطاب ترامب يتسم بطابع إنذاري ومؤطر أمنياً، حيث يصوّر الهجرة بوصفها أزمة تهدد السيادة الوطنية الأمريكية. ويعتمد على مفردات سلبية واستعارات مشحونة بالعاطفة لتعزيز الشعور بالخوف وتبرير سياسات صارمة لحماية الحدود. وعلى النقيض من ذلك، تقدّم هاريس خطاباً إنسانياً وإجرائياً يتسم بالتعاطف ويعكس هوية أمريكا بوصفها أرضا للمهاجرين. ويعتمد خطابها على مقاربة حقوقية تركز على حماية الفئات الهشة، وتعزيز الشمولية، وتقديم مسارات واضحة للحصول على الجنسية. ويسلّط هذا التباين الخطابي الضوء على كيفية استخدام قضايا الهجرة أداة لإعادة تشكيل الهويات الاجتماعية والسياسية، وتقديم تصورات مختلفة عن الدولة والمواطنة والاندماج.

**الكلمات الدالة:** علم اللغة الاجتماعي، الخطاب السياسي، الهجرة؛ الرموز اللغوية، تحليل السرد، المناظرة الرئاسية، ترامب؛ هاريس.

## 1. Introduction

The present paper studies sociolinguistic dimensions of immigration discourse in the presidential debates held between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris in the year 2024. As immigration remains one of the most polarizing issues within American politics today, it becomes imperative to understand how candidates would frame this issue vis-à-vis its broader implications upon the public opinion and electoral behavior. Thus, the research analyses the language choices and narrative structures drawn upon in the research debates so as to reveal how argumentation is constructed by each candidate in order to mobilize support and identity reinforcement programmed into the shaping of perceptions of voters.

Additionally, using a dual-framework analysis, the research investigates Basil Bernstein's theory of language codes: that is, the simplified, context-dependent restricted code contrasted with the more detailed, context-free elaborated code; and on the other

hand, William Labov's narrative model, focusing on discourse structure, evaluative devices, and indexical markers. The synergy of both methods facilitates an in-depth study of the candidates' rhetorical styles, emphasizing the differences in emotional appeal as opposed to policy articulation. Through the use of these two well-known theoretical models in examining contemporary political discourse, this study contributes to the field of sociolinguistics, providing insights into the language strategies employed in constructing political narratives in a bitterly fought electoral contest.

## 1.2 Research Problem

The main problem of this research is the so-far inadequately studied problematic phrasing strategy employed by US presidential candidates Trump and Harris concerning the issue of immigration during the 2024 presidential elections. Even though immigration is one of the politically most polarizing and incendiary issues in the United States, we predominantly focus on policy or media analysis, while underestimating the socio-linguistic tactics employed by the candidates.

It is surprising that, despite the sharp contrasts in the rhetoric of Trump and Harris, which depict opposing ideological stances, systematic analysis of their language is done using sociolinguistic frameworks. In particular, the application of Bernstein's theory of language codes and Labov's narrative analysis has not been explored in the context of presidential debates. There is a gap in scholarship documenting how different language codes and narrative models candidates employ to shape public opinion, construct ideologies, and determine voter preferences.

Overall, the goal of this study is to analyze Trump and Harris debates of 2024 through the lens of immigration policy to understand how they structure their discourse using Bernstein and Labov methods.

## 1.3 The Significant of the Research

An examination of the sociolinguistic aspects of the immigration policies within the debates of 2024 U.S. Presidential Elections between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris reflects how the use of language is instrumental in the shaping of public opinion, political identity, and policy language [1 :19].

The importance of the studies rests on the following:

1. Analysis of Policy Framing Strategies and Shifts in Public Opinion

Looking into the immigration policies under each candidate's scrutiny demonstrates the political maneuvering both Harris and Trump had to withstand in attempt to garner votes for their distinct parties. Trump uses imagery with metaphors which profile immigration as a crisis which needs to be dealt with in a timely fashion using terms like "flood" or "invasion." Harris addresses recovery themes as well so empowerment which centers around inclusion and social justice rather. Both these framing approaches shape public perception and policy decision by emphasizing specific dimensions of immigration while minimizing others[ 2:32]

2. Overview of Rhetorical Techniques and Pathos

The debates were characterized by different rhetoric styles:

● Trump: Firebrand politics with dangerously vivid phrasing and restating overblown threats that linked immigrants to crime and declining the economy. He predominantly invokes fluent speech (I-me), which furthers the image of an authoritative persona.

● Harris: Used compassionate speech while referencing the audience with collective pronouns (we, us) aiming towards togetherness

3. Emphasizing How Language Shapes Policy Discussions The candidates' language choices influence the larger immigration policy conversation in addition to reflecting their political philosophies. Researchers can determine how language shapes social realities, shapes public opinion, and possibly directs legislative priorities by examining their speech patterns. This knowledge is essential for creating policies and communication plans that better handle the complexities of immigration [*3*:34].

4. Supporting Political and Sociolinguistic Communication Studies By offering empirical information on how language works in politically charged situations, this analysis advances the disciplines of sociolinguistics and political communication. It provides a framework for investigating how language, ideology, and power interact to influence voter behavior and societal narratives [3:36].

**1.4 Aims of the Research**

In this regard, the research aims at integrating Bernstein's language code and Labov's narrative analysis with empirical studies of political debate discourse with the objective of a fully incorporating new ways of understanding how the theme of immigration emerges in talk about the 2024 presidential debates.

The analysis will address how at least part of the extension and evidence-based discourse of Harris contrasts with the restricted, emotionally charged language of Trump and what these differences imply for voter perception and the wider political narrative on immigration.

## 2. Theoretical Frameworks

The backbone of these early sociolinguistic theories lies in analyzing political discourse. Robinson Bernstein's study on language codes distinguishes between restricted codes characterized by context-dependent, simplified, and emotionally marked language, and elaborated codes, usually complex, explicit, and context-independent [4:52].

Bernstein's framework has been effective in understanding how language functions in social stratification and communication. Complementing this is William Labov's narrative approach that emphasizes structure of discourse focusing more on the construction and evaluation of narrating from the viewpoint of speakers through elements such as abstract, orientation, complicating action, evaluation, resolution, and coda [5:33]. These two theoretical conceptions are therefore a dual lens through which to view political speech-in this case, particularly the high-stakes arena of presidential debates when they're held.

**2.1 Immigration Discourse within American Politics**

Immigration has always been a vital aspect within American political discourse. The studies of Inglehart and Norris [6:23]and [7:14] show that these immigration debates are usually full of cultural and emotive connotation, thereby affecting the perception of the public and the way the policy is formed. Recently, analyses have been relatively kept on how the conservative and populist leaders- like Donald Trump- have exploited dehumanizing and hyperbolic language to describe immigrants as threats to national identity and economic insecurity [8:42;9:9]. Style investigations such as those on

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moderate to progressive discourse that expose voices from another angle discuss by Glynn [10:23] Voices, Policy Nuance, Ethical Politics, and Complexity of Migration Dynamics. These are essential consider different approaches on immigration rhetoric and the ways different political ideologies would want to politicize voters' perception.

## 2.2. Empirical Studies on Debate Discourse

Such a pile of empirical works on presidential debate discourse has been made through sociolinguistic methodologies. For example, studies by Tannen [11:89] and others provided the documentation that characterized Donald Trump's debate discourse as depending on restricted language and on emotionally charged rhetoric. These papers indicated that Trump's rhetorical strategies involved dramatic imagery and simplified narratives to convert them into an instant emotional response from his audience. However, a more policy-oriented or 'traditional' candidate uses such kind of elaborated language, as it would help build credibility and attach candidacy to a rational or evidence-based discourse [12:76]. Such studies could be comparative in framing different kinds of linguistic strategies, which could deliver different effects conjunctively on audience perception as well as political mobilization.

## 2.3 The 2024 Presidential Debates and Immigration

According to [13:20], another snapshot of how immigration is debated within the 2024 presidential debates is that between Donald Trump and homegrown Kamala Harris. Recent media reviews and facts checkers assert that hyper-reactionary, emotion-laden statements characterize Trump's approach to immigrants, like his unfounded accusation that immigrants are eating Americans' beloved pets rather than that Kamala Harris's discourse has been observed to use a more extended, evidence-telling narrative that emphasizes more on policy-specific policy and investment in addressing the core issues of migration.

This difference in articulation may reflect not only each candidate's political strategy, but it also forms an invigorating context to apply models from Bernstein and Labs to understand how language is employed to frame the immigration debate [14: 63].

## 2.4 Sociolinguistic Analysis in Political Discourse

There is a wealth literature on the application of sociolinguistic theories in political discourse. Fairclough [15:17] and van Dijk [16:83] describe how language is used to shape issues, identities, and audiences in relation to politics. Research on presidential debates[17: 72] shows how candidates' language choices are not arbitrary but serve specific ideological and persuasive ends. Most importantly, this restricted code can be seen as a mode of operation for populist rhetoric, where complex social issues are reduced to simplified emotional messages that can resonate with the masses [18:43-44]. On the other hand, using elaborated code signals a detailed discussion of policies and an appeal to rationality, thereby courting a voter base that prefers substantive evidence for argumentative claims [18:50].

# 3. Methodology

The analysis is combined under two well-established sociolinguistic frameworks-Basil Bernstein's language codes and William Labov's narrative approach- to derive some multilayer interpretation of the quotes from the 2024 debates. The understanding of how

the language styles and narrative structure used by each candidate affects their audience is further elaborated by understanding what was actually uttered.

Step 1: The Selection and Contextualization of Quotes

The research selects eight quotes from the newspapers to open the discussion on immigration-four Trump and four Kamala Harris, handpicked for this study from reputed news and fact-checking sources (with citation IDs such as "lsapo," "mbnqpjh," among others). These kinds of quotes have been taken because they represent the common style in which both candidates address immigration issues, including the rhetorical devices and views on public policy. Step 2: Application of Bernstein's Language Codes.

According to Basil Bernstein's theory, there are two types of language codes:

- Restricted Code: This type is simple and context bound; in which the people use a lot of information based on common culture. The characteristic of this code is full of short and repeating phrases. It also has some strong emotive vocabulary.

- Elaborated Code: This type has a complex structure of sentences along with more specification and uses context-independent language which easily explains the idea and denotes a very high level of abstraction.

For each quotation we then looked at:

• The level of complexity in syntax and vocabulary.

• Whether the language expectations then were based on shared implicit cultural references (restricted) or provided explicit and detailed information (elaborated).

From here we could see if one candidate is fast with the emotional appeal language whereas the other has detailed policy explanation and contextual nuance in mind-Harris exemplifying the latter.

Step 3: Applications of the Labovian Approach to Narrative

William Labov's narrative framework analyzes the construction and organization of discourse by the speaker. Topics of interest are:

•Orientation to the Story: The organization of the speaker's statement in terms of establishing a problem with resolution or merely advancing an evaluative comment about it.

• Evaluative Devices: The devices of repetition, rhetorical questioning, or reference to specific adjectives that mark the attitude of the speaker and their intended emotional impact.

• Indexical Markers: Within the discourse itself, acts that signal group membership or identity and thus invite the audience to line up with one view rather than another.

For each of the quotes, the researcher investigates:

• The structure of the quote (for instance, in the form of a question, a diagnostic statement, or a conditional promise).

• The intended emotional effect and whether the speaker has an intent to activate the audience or build credibility by producing some evidence.

• How the very choice of words shifts or frames the issues about inciting either near-term adrenaline-fueled fear and polarization in Trump's case or a reasoned sense of shared principles in Harris's case.

Step 4: Synthesis and Comparative Analysis

Ultimately, the researcher has done a side-by-side comparison of the findings of the two frameworks for each candidate. It highlighted:

• How Trump utilizes his so-called restricted code and shrilling narratives to polarize and energize his bases by directly appealing to the pre-existing fears.

• How Harris employs an elaborated code and structured evidence-based narratives to build credibility, select a rational consensus, a3.2 Data Analysis

**3.2 Data Analysis**

These quotes contrast Trump's often-dramatic language, riddled with unsubstantiated rhetoric, and the listener hears Harris's focusing on the policy solutions and accountability in border security and an immigration system that breaks down.

**3.2.1 Donald Trump's Quotes**

1. **Quote: "In Springfield, they're eating the dogs; the people that came in, they're eating the cats. They are eating the pets of the people that live there."**

**Bernstein Analysis**:

This statement exemplifies the use of a restricted code-the language is simplified, highly emotive, and relies on dramatic, concrete imagery. Instead, Trump uses short, repetitive constructions, which leave little room for detailed evidence but amplify shock value.

**Labov Analysis**

Labov's typically thought of as being about the immediacy of shaping emotions in a narrating process. Hyperbolic repetition in saying "They're eating" appears to be an evaluative tool for argumentation. Specific in its reference, it denotes a style addressing fears to trigger in-group identity – yet it offers no meaningful linguistic distinctions from subtlety or elaboration. It also drastically shifts topics, working more toward generating a mental picture of crisis than delivering an ascertainable event.

2. **Quote: "Our country is being lost, we're a failing nation."**

**Bernstein Analysis**

The vernacular remains tied to an elitist code, expanding into wider generalizations and emotionally loaded qualifiers-spouting exhortations of "lost" and "fail"-that appeal to common cultural stereotypical ideologies rather than precision in descriptions. The situation gets exacerbated when it becomes even shorter, without qualifiers, like "goats." This enforces a framing of "us versus them."

**Labov Analysis:**

According to Labov, this utterance could function as a diagnostic statement attempting to create negative imagery around the reality denoted by the utterance or as evaluative summary. The absence of any timestamp or context suggests that whatever is being said is, in effect, given as some kind of "everyday truth" for the audience of the speaker because it strengthens group identity-reinforces the speaker's role as guardian of national interest."

3. **Quote: "Why are we allowing these millions of people to come through on the southern border? How come she's not doing anything?"**

**Bernstein Analysis:**

The question involves a restricted code by following a rhetorical structure that implies an evident answer requiring little elaboration. It uses language that is informal, direct, and accusatory.

**Labov Analysis:**

In Labovian terms, the interrogative form here has an ulterior motive: it provokes the audience into completing the unspoken with their own fears and assumptions. The term "these millions of people" serves as an indexical marker triggering an already existing narrative of crisis, while the naming-through-direct-address "she" personalizes the blame and shoves responsibility onto a political adversary.

4. **Quote: "We have millions of people pouring into our country from prisons and jails, from mental institutions and insane asylums. And they're coming in and they're taking jobs that are occupied right now by African Americans and Hispanics and also unions."**

**Bernstein Analysis**: This statement also belongs to the restricted code category; it uses concrete, though hyperbolic descriptors ("prisons and jails," "mental institutions and insane asylums") to evoke chaos. The structure is cumulative and listing of the institutions and groups astounds one with the sheer magnitude of invasion.

**Labov Analysis**:

Labov's narrative analysis puts this statement in the category of being evaluative; it does not simply describe a purported reality, but morally judges and creates fear. The listing of institutions and demographic groups attempts to create a vivid-if distorted-picture of social disorder. It is the style-shifting device that is apparently meant to activate the audience through the emotionally evocative rhetoric rather than by factual argumentation.

**3.2.2 Kamala Harris's Quotes**

1. **Quote: "That bill would have put more resources to allow us to prosecute transnational criminal organizations for trafficking in guns, drugs and human beings. But you know what happened to that bill? Donald Trump got on the phone, called up some folks in Congress and said, 'Kill the bill.'"**

**Bernstein Analysis**:

Here was the quote: ""The law would have put more resources in order to allow us to prosecute transnational criminal organizations that traffic in gun, drugs, and human beings. But you know what happened to that bill? Donald Trump put the call into some folks in Congress and said, "Kill the bill.""" Bernstein analysis: Harris's language here is more in the elaborated code: fuller elaborations, complex syntax, income contrasting a policy proposition with a putative political maneuver. It is further away from emotive indirectness and more comprehensively descriptive, aiming at clarity and accountability.

**Labov Analysis**:

According to Labov, Harris builds a sequential narrative around an event where a potential for the bill arises and its failure is explained through direct attribution. The turn ("But you know what happened...") serves as a pivot in the narrative that impeaches the

opponent's credibility. Again, her use of reported discourse ("called up some folks in Congress") is to introduce evidence in a register graced with conversation, yet formal, which would warrant a rational evaluation by her audience.

2. **Quote: "We have a broken immigration system and it needs to be repaired ": Kamala Harris**

**Bernstein Analysis:**

This one is quite open about its perspective, making explicit evaluations the vehicle by which Harris embraces a model and erects it for attack: However emotive Trump's claims may be, Harris can muddy the waters and round the crests.

**Labov Analysis:**

Labov, to sum it up, would say this about the statement: the speaker deliberately presented an obvious explanation that the audience would interpret common sense in order to make them see her way. The simplicity combined with vigor that the statement offers could also be taken as a normative claim of itself-Harris wants to have issues dealt with. The general sense of reiterating Troxel's site of commiseration, along with presupposing a general view of "what is in trouble with the system."

3. **Quote: "As vice president, I worked to address the root causes of migration by investing nearly a billion dollars in Central American communities to reduce the push factors driving illegal immigration."**

**Bernstein Analysis**:

In this instance, Harris uses an elaborated code to give concrete examples and quantified detail of substantive potential value ($99.7 million) in order to support her claim. The stylization is distanced and more expository, to emphasize its credibility through an appeal to fact.

**Labovian Analysis:**

According to Labov, this is a claim on professional knowledge. The recount of concrete reasoning of spending stands in contrast to the arguments given by the opposition about the situation. It sets Harris in a position of authority and responsibility, using factual data to reinforce her exhibiting policy credentials. The style is very self-oriented and addresses an audience that genuinely appreciates evidence-led presentation and argumentation.

4. **Quote: "If elected, I will sign the bipartisan border security bill into law to secure our borders and ensure our country is safe from the challenges of illegal immigration."**

**Bernstein Analysis**:

It is made explicit that this promise comprises detailed code, conditionally phrased as in the style of "if elected," and it embodies a clear, streamlined proposal. It is marked by explicit detail about intended policy action, aligned with the register formal, political form in which probing assurance and clarity are sought.

**Labov Analysis:**

In fact, it accords with the future doings of such a statement-for this promise is constructed as a commitment to action that both resolves the issue and engenders trust by revealing a clear policy solution. The conditional form engages the imagining of a future

state in which these matters are striven to be resolved and thus becomes both a promise and a rhetorical means of differentiating her plan from vague rhetoric by the opposition.

## 4. General Findings

The following is a summary of the main findings from this sociolinguistic analysis based on Bernstein's theory of language codes and Labov's narrative approach:

• Disparate Language Code:

• Trump's Speech: This mostly uses a restricted code characterized by short, repetitive, and sometimes hyperbolic expressions. Its language is emotionally loaded and simplified, as well as exceptionally vivid, concrete images, and rhetorical questions.

• Harris's Speech: Rests more on an elaborated code with complex syntax, explicit explanations, and quantitative details. Her speech is evidence-based, structured, and policy-oriented above all else.

Narrative Structure and Evaluative Devices (Labovian Perspective):

• Trump's Narratives: Intended to trigger immediate emotional reactions and fear. Such accounts are often entirely devoid of context and use sharp evaluative shifts (i.e., reiterating some shocking claims) in order to polarize the audience in an in-group collective identity.

• Harris's Narratives: Set by staging a problem followed by a detailed, rational argument. Her use of reported speech and very specific figures is aimed at building credibility and convincing the audience of reaching an understanding of policy problems grounded in evidence.

## 5. Conclusions

This research analyzed the sociolinguistic strategies underlying the Trump and Harris discourse during the 2024 U.S. presidential debates and how these approaches differ pertaining to their ideology. Through the application of Basil Bernstein's theory of language codes alongside William Labov's narrative structure, it was apparent that Trump relied on a restricted code of simpler emotionally driven language, and narratives steeped in crises, while Harris used an elaborated code integrated with systemic compassion policies moderated by evidence.

The results illustrate that language is more than a tool for communication; it is a means through which political identities and public perceptions are constructed, ideologies are divided, and the schism between "us" and "them" is deepened. The side-by-side study fosters understanding of the importance of sociolinguistics in dealing with contemporary issues of election and politics, demonstrating the need to go beyond the persuasive aims of language to expose the very construction of the political argument frameworks.

However, this study adds to the rather sparse sociolinguistic and political discourse focus by showing how choices of language during heated debates frame the perceptions of voters along ideological lines, especially in regards to contested issues such as immigration.

Overall, each candidate's discourse operates in a wider sociolinguistic arena: Trump's discourse relies upon emotionally charged, restricted language with hyperbolic

overstatement, while Harris employs more elaborate, evidence-oriented, and policy-centered discourse. In contrast to Trump's simplified narrative based upon fear, Harris appeals to credibility with a narrative based on value-sharing and concrete solutions.

**CONFLICT OF IN TERESTS**
**There are no conflicts of interest**

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**Appendix**
**Trump and Harris quotes references**
**Trump Quotes**

1. **"In Springfield, they're eating the dogs, the people that came in, they're eating the cats. They're eating the pets of the people that live there."**
   **https://x.com/PopCrave/status/1833681149081588116?lang=ar**

2. **"Our country is being lost, we're a failing nation."**
   **https://www.reuters.com/world/us/key-quotes-harris-trump-debate-2024-09-11/**

3. **"Why are we allowing these millions of people to come through on the southern border? How come she's not doing anything?"**
   **https://www.rev.com/transcripts/harris-vs-trump-presidential-debate**

4. **"We have millions of people pouring into our country from prisons and jails, from mental institutions and insane asylums. And they're coming in and they're taking jobs that are occupied right now by African Americans and Hispanics and also unions."**
   **https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/harris-trump-presidential-debate-transcript/story?id=113560542**
   **All the above references were retrieved on Tuesday 15-4-2025**

**Harris quotes**

1. **"That bill would have put more resources to allow us to prosecute transnational criminal organizations for trafficking in guns, drugs and human beings. But you know what happened to that bill? Donald Trump got on the phone, called up some folks in Congress and said, 'Kill the bill.''**
   **https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/watch-harris-blames-trump-for-killing-bipartisan-border-bill**

2. **" We have a broken immigration system and it needs to be repaired ": Kamala Harris**
   **https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/us-has-broken-immigration-system-that-needs-to-be-repaired-kamala-harris-124101700040_1.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com**

3. **"As vice president, I worked to address the root causes of migration by investing nearly a billion dollars in Central American communities to reduce the push factors driving illegal immigration."**
   **https://www.nbcnews.com/investigations/kamala-harris-border-policy-rcna163317**

4. **"If elected, I will sign the bipartisan border security bill into law to secure our borders and ensure our country is safe from the challenges of illegal immigration."**
   **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDVZmkefpGo**