Tracy Matsue Loeffelholz Clo Copass

efore deportation,

court hearing. Because it is a

civil matter rather than criminal, a lawyer is not provided. Most

immigrants, often with English as a second language, are left

to face complex proceedings

on their own. New York City

began a pilot immigration public

defender system in 2013. This

April, New York state allocated

Defense Project fund, making it the first in the nation to

ensure legal representation for

immigrants. Here's why that's an

easy start to fixing a broken system.

\$10 million to create the Liberty

undocumented people have

the right to an immigration

Undocumented people usually don't have a lawyer.



63% have legal representation ' in their

deportation

cases



don't have legal representation :

if they're already in detention

263,372 IMMIGRANTS APPLIED FOR RELIEF FROM DEPORTATION (2007-2012)





more likely to be released in custody hearings if they had lawyers: 44% with lawyers vs. 11% with none



SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION COUNCIL REPORT, EAGLY AND SHAFER, 2016 ILLUSTRATIONS: ERHUI1979 / ISTOCK INFOGRAPHIC: YES! MAGAZINE, 2017



ONE FIX TO AN UNFAIR **IMMIGRATION SYSTEM CATCHING ON**

Immigrants with lawyers fare better.

Of the 52% who won relief from deportation:

2% had no counsel

92%

78%

21%

50%

had counsel

Lawyers are costly, and there aren't enough volunteers.

But there is uneven access to representation.

> MEXICAN **IMMIGRANTS** Lowest

representation rate and highest detention rate CHINESE IMMIGRANTS Highest

4%

representation rate and lowest detention rate

of immigrants receive pro bono counsel