Executing illegal immigrants would have a significantly more positive impact on the American economy than deporting them or putting them on a path to citizenship, says a new study issued by the Institute for Human Dignity, a Washington-based research center.

"Amnesty for 12 million illegals would cost billions of dollars in lost jobs for American citizens," said the report, "while executions would create an estimated 1.2 million new jobs in the penal sector, and at the same time it would reduce the tax burden on Americans who provide schooling and other social services for those aliens." According to the report, "A Modest Proposal," the figure of 1.2 million new jobs does not count the additional stimulus to the news and entertainment sector which would indirectly benefit from such a program.

Reaction to the report has been mixed. "We are outraged by this shocking and offensive proposal," said a statement by a coalition of liberal groups including the ACLU, People for the American Way and MoveOn.org. But presidential candidate Tom Tancredo (R-CO) told CNN's Lou Dobbs, "Whatever else you can say about this plan, it ain’t amnesty, that's for sure."

UPDATE: The Institute for Human Dignity (www.fictitious.org) has no relationship to the Institute for Human Dignity (www.truthrising.org/).

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