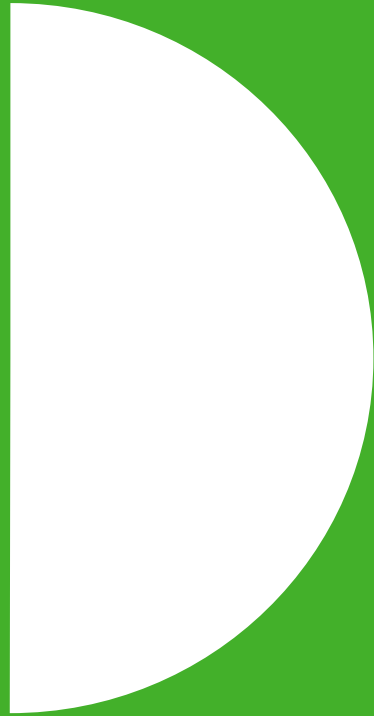


PINO MIGLIORINO

AM (MIGRANT, ENTREPRENEUR)



SEIZING
OPPORTUNITIES: THE
PLACE OF MIGRANT AND
REFUGEE
ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN
SHAPING AUSTRALIA



POST WW2 IMMIGRATION

- Since 1945 approximately 7.5 million people from over 180 countries have migrated to Australia
- This equates to an average of one million migrants each decade since 1950
- Australia's economy has increased six-fold over that time



2008-2018

Over the last decade migrants from India, China, the Middle East and the African continent have featured, contributing to Australia's cultural, linguistic and religious diversity



MIGRATION + ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Migrant communities have been consistently entrepreneurial and have affected the make up of small businesses in Australia
- 83% of migrant and business owners did not previously own a business before coming to Australia
- 51% of migrant business owners have a higher degree compared to 38% of non-migrant business owners
- 52% of migrant business owners started their businesses to gain greater experience in an Australian context
- 23% were more likely to have done so to 'try out an innovative idea' compared to 16% of non-migrant business owners

TODAY'S AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS LANDSCAPE

- 45% of private sector is small to medium enterprises
- 1/3 are owned by migrants correlated across 3 main industry types:
 - Property/business services
 - Retail/hospitality
 - Community services/education
- Consistent one third figure over past 30 years
- 1.4 million people employed by migrant business owners in Australia



PULL FACTORS

- Emergence and growth of ethnic precincts
- Ethnically based precincts meets direct and specific community needs
 - Food related across the food supply chain
 - Restaurants and meeting places
 - Professional services catering to language and cultural needs
 - Clothing and general retail



- Contribution to Australia's international + bilateral relationships through trade, investment and commercial opportunities
- Development of export/import avenues
- Bilateral Chambers of Commerce opening new markets for Australian products

PUSH FACTORS

- Many migrant and refugee businesses started through necessity
- Motivating factor = lack of success in Australian labour market
- 22% of skilled migrants in Australia are underemployed
- Identifiable differences in career advancements among groups of workers
- Level of racial discrimination in Australian employment practices despite anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legal frameworks

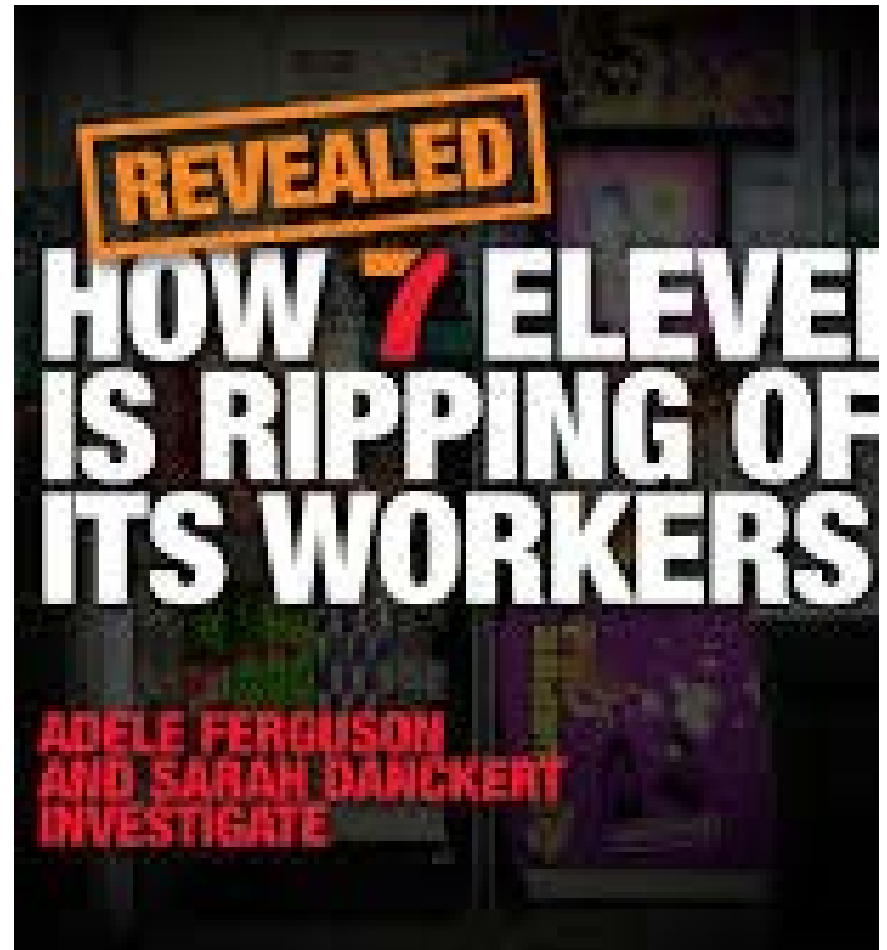
SUCCESS FACTORS

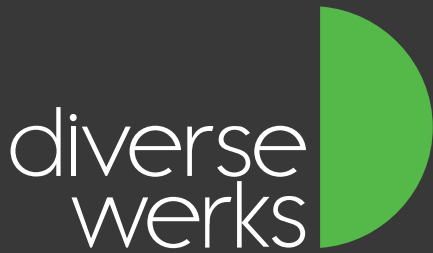
Critical factors to success of migrant and refugee small businesses in Australia:

- Business is developed to meet specific cultural needs
- Feed into local and community information pathways
- Becomes part of the migrant settlement landscape
- Family-oriented and can maximise return by minimising labour costs
- Financed from within family and community networks
- Flexible and increasingly intergenerational

AREAS OF CONCERN

- Potential exploitation of workers on temporary visas
- Misuse of student visas to recruit slave labour
- Exploitation of vulnerable migrant workers including international students and women on spouse visas
- Failing to maintain Australian standards for wage and work conditions





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