

SOMALI REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND LOCATIONAL DETERMINANTS IN THE
UNITED STATES

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A DISSERTATION

Submitted to
Michigan State University
In partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Geography

2011

ABSTRACT

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The United States is a classic country of immigration, but it is also a traditional country of resettlement for refugees. Since the enactment of the 1980 Refugee Act, the United States has resettled over two and a half million refugees. Out of all of the groups that have been resettled, there is one group that has gained national and even international attention as a result of their migration practices here in the United States. In 2002 Lewiston, Maine became a site for the secondary migration of Somali refugees. The financial hardships the town faced as a result of that migration caused then-Mayor Laurier T. Raymond to write a public letter pleading for the Somali elders to put a halt to the migration. The letter, which was construed as racist, attracted national and international attention. At the time, Lewiston was not a resettlement city, thus it did not have the resources or skills to deal with this new population. Therefore, the challenge and cost to settle the Somali initially fell on the community. The events that took place in Lewiston – the unexpected influx of Somali secondary migrants – have taken place in numerous cities and towns across America. The problem is that little is known about the factors that influence the residential distribution of the Somali or the factors that motivate them to embark on secondary migrations after their initial resettlement in communities in the United States. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, this research analyzes several social, economic, and demographic variables from various U.S. government databases in order to identify the order of the factors most associated with not only the residential location of the Somalis, but also their migration destinations. To further elaborate on the quantitative findings, this research employs

qualitative instruments such as surveys, unstructured interviews, and participant observation conducted in Columbus, Ohio – home to the second largest concentration of Somalis in the United States.

Results indicate that the Somali were dispersing from their initial resettlement communities in secondary migrations not only to frontier communities, but also to communities with an existing Somali population. The time frame of the data indicates that this was a period of ethnic community building for the Somali. This fits in with the results of the analysis of diversity, which indicated that the growing Somali communities became more diverse with respect to clan-family representation over time. This growing diversity can be contributed to the expansion of the number of Somali tribal/clan groups considered to be in imminent danger as the civil conflict progressed. Survey results suggest that the presence of one's own clan would never serve as the primary reason for secondary migration, but it would serve as a strong motivator because of the social network resources it could provide at the destination. While the destination communities for Somali secondary migrants were somewhat similar to the communities where they originally resided – which typify refugee resettlement communities – subtle important differences were noted. Results of the principal components regression on migration determinants revealed that these differences included, but were not limited to, the presence of an older population, lower crime rates, and a decreased importance placed on the black or white racial demographics. Results also indicate that, while the employment aspects of the migrant destinations decreased in importance, the health of the welfare aspects associated with the destination of the Somali migrants increased in importance.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writing of this dissertation has constituted one of the most challenging academic endeavors I have ever faced. With this said, I would like to give thanks to the following people, for without their guidance, patience, and support, this research would have never been completed;

- Dr. Joe T. Darden; Advisor, Dissertation Committee Chair, Mentor.
- Dr. Steven J. Gold, Dr. Sue Grady, and Dr. Bruce Pigozzi; Dissertation Committee Members and role models.
- Karina Harty-Morrison and the staff at the Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) in Columbus, Ohio.
- The Somalis survey respondents in Columbus, Ohio.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Background

The Somali are a relatively new and growing group of immigrants in the United States owing to civil war between rival clans and political entities that left Somalia in ruins. Data compiled from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) and the Department of Homeland Security¹ (DHS) reveals that over 108,000 Somali refugees, asylees, and I-94² non-immigrants entered the United States between 1990 and 2009 at an average close to 5,414 per year over the 19-year period. Like most refugees who have been resettled in the United States, it was expected there would be some secondary migration to established ethnic communities; however, in the case of the Somali³, migration after they have initially been resettled in an American community appears to occur frequently and sometimes on a large scale. These migrations – commonly referred to as secondary migrations – and some of their negative consequences are evident in media reports from places such as Lewiston, Maine. Somali secondary migrations across the United States have been drawing media attention since the turn of the century. Lewiston garnered the most widespread media attention in 2001 when an influx of Somali secondary migrants unexpectedly overwhelmed the city. The Somali secondary migration to Lewiston gained national and even international attention when then-Mayor Laurier T. Raymond issued a

¹ Archival data from the Department of Homeland Security can be found at <http://www.dhs.gov/files/statistics/publications/archive.shtm> and the data from the Office of Refugee Resettlement can be found at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/data/index.htm>

² I-94 refers an enumeration category of non-immigrants that are temporarily in the United States and require a visa. This category includes – but is not exclusive to - vacationers, diplomats, and students.

³ In this study, the Somali are categorized as refugees in general. While not all Somali in the U.S. are refugees, nearly 94.5 percent of the Somalis legally admitted to the U.S. were done so as refugees and asylees.

public plea in an open letter to the Somali community leaders urging them to discourage further Somali secondary migration to Lewiston.

Refugee policy for the United States is made at the federal level, but local entities – particularly voluntary agencies (VOLAGS) and state refugee coordinators – are responsible for *where* refugees are resettled (Singer and Wilson 2006). When refugees are resettled in the United States, placement is based on several criteria that include housing availability, the job market, the presence of family, and community resources. These criteria are in place to ensure that communities receiving the refugees have the ability to provide the basic necessities for their newest members. Refugee policy does not contain any mandates or criteria specifying that refugees must stay in their initial resettlement communities⁴, so many embark on secondary migrations for locations with established ethnic communities where they expect to receive social support from other compatriots. The Somali are no different in this respect. Many Somalis will embark on secondary migrations to established Somali communities, which are typically resettlement communities – i.e., ORR designated communities with the necessary resources, government backing and experience to work with Somali refugees. On the other hand, many Somalis will also make secondary migrations to frontier communities. In the context of this dissertation, frontier communities refer to communities that initially had no Somali presence or were not official resettlement communities – like Lewiston, Maine. An assessment of media reports suggest that the residents of these communities are usually taken by surprise by the swiftness and numbers in which the Somali arrive. When refugees are resettled in the United States, the process requires financial as well as human resources for endeavors ranging from the

⁴ For the purpose of this dissertation, initial resettlement community refers to the community a refugee is assigned to by the ORR once they have been granted entry into the United States.

provision of cash assistance and translation services to housing, education, and job placement. These endeavors are normally carried out by VOLAGS. If the community is not an ‘official’ resettlement community – as recognized by the ORR – and thus not receiving funding or support from the ORR, then the endeavors typically handled by the VOLAGS fall on the community. The sentiment of many communities who find themselves facing this situation where they are suddenly charged with the responsibility of caring for a population that is not only new to the community, but also new to the country, is aptly captured in the following passage from a Church World Service interview with Fabian Talamante – Director of the Dallas-based Refugee Services of Texas sub-office in Amarillo. Talamante’s response in the following passage is to a question pertaining to a recent influx of refugee secondary migrants (to include the Somali) into Dumas, Texas:

“So what are we supposed to do, not help?” asked Talamante. “Of course we help! I wish we could get funding, but we still do the work” of making sure the secondary migrants get the help they need. (Church World Services 2009)

The response provided by Talamante reflects a common reaction characteristic of many communities. Thus, even though non-resettlement communities⁵ are under no obligation to help secondary migrants, they do so anyway. The reason why these communities choose to extend the help, however, is beyond the scope of this research.

Refugee secondary migrations to both resettlement and non-resettlement communities can in some cases present problems. According to Nadeau (2003), the relocation to resettlement and non-resettlement communities can generate fiscal, social, and program changes that require amendments to local and statewide policy. When refugees emigrate from their initial

⁵ The term ‘non-resettlement community’ is used in this dissertation to refer to communities that have not been officially recognized or designated as a resettlement community by the ORR.

resettlement community, the resettlement benefits endowed to them – social services, cash and medical assistance – do not follow through to their new destination. Thus, when secondary migrants arrive in non-resettlement communities where there are no programs in place to handle the tasks associated with resettlement, services extended to help typically become public charges. When there are numerous secondary migrants, the public charges become taxing on the community as with the Somali secondary migrants in the Lewiston case. Similar issues can also arise when a substantial amount of secondary migrants arrive in communities designated by the ORR as “official” resettlement communities. The money provided to resettlement communities by the ORR is based on calculations for the set number of refugees sent to those communities. Some resettlement communities have reserve funds for unexpected arrivals; however, when they are inundated with secondary migrants, the reserve funds are exhausted and the services provided for those additional unexpected arrivals become public charges as with the Somali secondary migrants in the Columbus case. In Columbus, Ohio, over 300 Somalis migrated to the city unexpectedly; and because the city was un-prepared, the families spent weeks living in homeless shelters that were originally structured to house people for only a few days (Ohio Refugee Services 2006). In Columbus, Lewiston, and many of the other communities that receive Somali secondary migrants, the main issues raised concern the estimation of exactly how many Somalis will be migrating to their location, why are they migrating to their location, and how long will they stay. Despite the fact that Somalis have been coming to this country in significant numbers for the past two decades, little is known about this population, – especially about their motivations to migrate within the continental United States after they are assigned to a resettlement community.

Somali secondary migration has been attributed to their previous lifestyle as “nomads” in Somalia trying to find “greener pastures” (Horst 2007). Indeed, it has been noted that the Somali population has been characterized as continuously moving – even after their resettlement in the global diaspora (Kapteijns and Arman 2004). The nomadic explanation for Somali migration, however, neglects to explain any role of clan culture – the culture that formed the basis of their society for hundreds of years and may play a role in the secondary migration of Somalis throughout America. In addition, the ‘greener pastures’ analogy lacks definition and quantifiable attributes. In Somalia, the nomadic way of life is associated with clans and clans are associated with support and security; thus, the pertinent questions are – when Somalis migrate within the United States following their initial resettlement into a community, is the decision individualistic or is the decision influenced by clan allegiance? Is the spatial distribution of Somali in the United States random, or is there a pattern to their distribution? A sizeable proportion of the research that *has* examined refugee migration within the United States typically looked at refugees as a whole; this generalizing approach, however, neglects the unique attributes of the groups that make up the refugee population and in the process obscures any differences. This type of aggregation commonly results in expectations concerning refugee distribution and migration patterns, which may or may not be true once the refugees are disaggregated into their individual ethnic or racial group. By specifically focusing on the Somali (i.e. a single refugee group), this research corrects such over-sight.

United States Refugee Policy

Refugees are defined as persons who, owing to a well founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political

opinion, is outside the country of his/her nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return (Hein 1993). There are over 22 resettlement countries, and 9 of these are considered to be traditional⁶. Traditional resettlement countries are those who have historically and consistently participated in the resettlement of refugees; the United States is by far the largest of the resettlement countries accepting more refugees for resettlement than the other 21 countries combined (Patrick 2004). As reflected in the volume of refugees accepted for admission, an important goal of U.S. foreign policy is the continued assistance to and resettlement of refugees; and since the 1980s, more than 2.5 million refugees have been resettled in the United States. Refugee resettlement in the United States is largely based on humanitarian concerns and the program itself is governed by the Refugee Act of 1980. The 1980 Refugee Act introduced into American law a definition of refugee that was comparable to that established by the United Nations (U.N.). Congress passed the Refugee Act of 1980 to provide a uniform procedure by which to admit refugees and authorize federal assistance for their resettlement and procurement of self-sufficiency (Bruno 2009). Policies stemming from the act also dictate the dispersal of refugees; but, despite the fact that refugees have been dispersed throughout the United States, 10 states in particular received the vast majority. In a comprehensive examination of refugee resettlement conducted by Singer and Wilson (2006), it was discovered that California headed a list of ten states that received nearly 70 percent of the 1.6 million refugees that had been resettled between 1983 and 2004. The preceding figures are based on initial resettlement counts; however, many refugees embark on secondary migrations soon after they arrive. Much of the secondary migration occurs within the first few years after arrival within the United States

⁶ Traditional resettlement countries include: New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United States, Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, and the Netherlands. Switzerland used to be a traditional resettlement country until it ended its resettlement program in 2002.

and then the refugee group becomes relatively stabilized in their geographic distribution after an initial period of adjustment to life in the United States (Office of Refugee Resettlement 2006). It has been suggested that better employment opportunities, established ethnic communities, better welfare benefits, family reunification, or more congenial climates serve as factors that lure refugees away from their initial resettlement communities (Office of Refugee Resettlement 2008).

The Countries of Origin of Refugees

Traditionally, refugee groups entering the United States have been from developed countries where they obtained skills that were transferable in a compatible culture; i.e., skills that could be incorporated into a new area with a similar culture requiring few new resources. Since the early 1990s, a steadily growing proportion of the refugees have been coming from underdeveloped parts of the world; in many such instances, transferable skills and cultural similarities are basically non-existent. These contemporary refugees require a greater amount of assistance because it is typically harder for them to adapt to life in America given the substantial difference between their culture and mainstream American culture. The vast majority of refugees are still coming from places such as Europe and Asia, but a growing number are coming from the African region. The group for study in this research – the Somali – is from the African region and has for the larger part constituted a stateless nation⁷ since 1991. Somalis, who are predominately Muslim, come from a clan-based, primarily nomadic, African society. In the United States, the Somali comprise a minority culture, religion, and race – this combination provides for a different type of immigration issue (Schaid and Grossman 2007). Because of the

⁷ A stateless nation refers to a people without a state – state being an area that has a government, a defined territory, and a permanent population (Getis, et al. 2011).

apparent uniqueness of this group – in addition to the fact that relatively little is known about them – it is imperative that we understand their situation given that the social and political turmoil in Somalia will continue to generate refugees for years to come (Goza 2007).

Background to the Research Problem

The Somali are highly mobile and it is reported that they are dispersing from their initial resettlement communities to smaller cities and towns – this can present a problem because the destination communities are often ill-informed about the size and make-up of this migrating group. The number of Somalis arriving in many of the newly established migration streams seems to be of priority concern, not only to the citizens at the destination communities, but also to the leaders of those communities. Concern within a community constitutes an issue because of the importance of the community. The importance of the community stems from the notion that the community can provide direct assistance to refugees and that the community's response can influence the government's policies concerning refugees (Jacobsen 1996). The following are just three of an uncounted number of examples where the influx of Somali secondary migrants has caused concern within destination communities:

Emporia, KS: In November 2007, citizens of Emporia believed their town would become a major destination community for secondary migrants because within a matter of months, somewhere from 750 to 1000 Somalis had migrated from various parts of the United States to this small Kansas town. As local, state, and private leaders prepared, they held meetings to expand on how they would spend the \$154,000 emergency grant earmarked for services, personnel, and space need to help settle the Somali; this personnel would include outreach workers to help the Somalis with endeavors ranging from applying for benefits, collection of missing documents, and affidavits of relationship to bring others from the refugee camps in Africa to applying for housing, counseling, and health services (Mlynar 2007). In less than a year, the majority of the Somali community had decided to leave following the decision of Tyson Foods to close its operations. (Berlin 2008)

Columbus, OH: Columbus is home to an estimated 30,000 Somali. During the first half of 2005, over 300 Somali Bantu migrated to Columbus catching the city by surprise. Over a dozen Somali families were living in a homeless shelter – originally designed to house people for a few weeks – for months. Franklin County received over \$650,000 in federal grants to help with issues such as finding the Somalis jobs, enrolling their children in school, enrolling the adults in English learning classes, housing, healthcare, and other settlement issues (Juliano 2005). City and government social workers sought to find more grants for emergency relief. It was reported that the new Somali migrants arrived without any direct connection or job prospects in Columbus. Technical assistants from the National Somali Bantu Project who went to Columbus to assess the situation determined that the migrants felt desperate in their original resettlement communities fearing that they would become homeless because they lacked jobs that paid enough to cover food and housing for their families. The assistants concluded that misinformation about jobs and housing availability in Columbus encouraged the migration (Ohio Refugee Services 2006). The migrants came from over a dozen cities across the country with Memphis TN, Atlanta GA, and Hartford CT accounting for the majority.

Lewiston, ME: Lewiston was the most publicized case of Somali internal migration. At the beginning of 2001, no Somalis were living in Lewiston, but by the end of the year, over 1,000 had migrated to this town with a population of 35,000. The Somali welfare caseworker in Lewiston expected that close to 1,000 more Somalis would migrate to Lewiston during the summer months of 2002 (Bouchard 2002). The Somali secondary migrants arrived from communities all over the United States, but the majority came directly from Atlanta, Georgia. Those that left Atlanta did so because of the over-taxed welfare system, a fragile relation with the area's African American population, and a desire to protect their children from assimilating into the American culture too quickly. According to Tilove (2002), the Somali were seeking cheaper housing and a better welfare system – by moving from Georgia to Maine, the Somali traded one of the least generous welfare systems for one that is among the most generous. The Somali were also seeking better schools and a better place to raise their children with “fewer perils and temptations” (Tilove 2002). The vast majority of the migrants had no money, no jobs, and no job prospects when they arrived. City officials estimated that only 10 percent of the Somali adults living in Lewiston were working because the local labor market had little to offer unskilled workers without a high school diploma and the ability to speak little or no English. Lewiston's welfare budget had doubled because most of the Somali were seeking rent and food assistance (Bouchard 2002). The town received \$200,000 in federal grant assistance but more was needed. The grant was actually \$50,000 less than the amount the city spent on staff positions and programs created to incorporate Somali students into the school system. Motivated by the escalating conditions, on October 1, 2002, Mayor Raymond issued a public letter to the Somali community urging restraint in their migration practices because of the stress it placed on the city's finances and the generosity of the residents. Mayor Raymond's letter drew sharp criticism from news media and human rights activists from all over the country. (Bouchard 2002)

The frequent movement of Somalis is attributed to their nomadic heritage; however, this alone does not explain the numbers that are seen moving to specific areas. Table 1.1 contains data compiled from a U.S. Census 2000 special tabulation of foreign-born population demographic and social characteristics for the United States. The table reveals that over 60 percent of the 34,815 Somalis (age 5 years and older) counted in the 2000 Census were still living outside the United States in 1995. However, out of the 13,840 Somalis that *were* living in the United States, only 3,650 (10.5 percent) were living in the same house in 2000 as they did in 1995. That percentage is much less than the native-born population – 55.7 percent of the 231,666,090 native-born people (age 5 and older) lived in the same house in 1995 as they did in 2000. This speaks to the sedentary nature of the populations.

TABLE 1. 1: Census 2000 special tabulation – foreign-born residency.				
Group:	Native-born	Somali	Vietnamese	Cuban
Population 5 years & over:	231,666,090	34,815	981,215	868,995
RESIDENCE IN 1995				
Same house:	128,946,395	3,650	425,745	451,695
Different house in the U.S.	100,849,170	10,190	459,165	312,780
Same county	57,530,090	4,970	311,285	236,300
Different county	43,319,080	5,220	147,880	76,480
Same state	23,294,650	1,715	82,695	40,460
Different state	20,024,430	3,505	65,185	36,025
Elsewhere in 1995	1,870,525	20,980	96,300	104,515
Source: (FILES: Census 2000 Special Tabulation (STP-159) - United States / prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau 2002). Table FBP-1. Profile of Selected Demographic and Social Characteristics: 2000.				

In reference to the mobility of the populations, Table 1.1 also reveals that when the native-born move, the destination is commonly within the state; however, when Somalis move,

the destination is typically in another state. Out of the 10,190 Somalis that lived in a different house in 1995, 34.4 percent reported that the house was in different a state. This is compared to only 19.9 percent for the native-born population. The percentage of Somalis that were living in different states in 1995 than they did in 2000 is also higher when compared to other groups with large refugee populations such as the Cubans and the Vietnamese. The percentage of the Cuban and Vietnamese population who lived in a different state in 1995 than they did in 2000 was 11.5 and 14.2 percent respectively. Table 1.1 lends credence to the notion that the Somali are highly mobile, and the Somali do have a nomadic heritage; however, that heritage is interlinked with clan affiliation for safety and security – the act itself was primarily driven by environmental factors:

War and feud occur frequently in Somaliland and constitute a further hazard to the pastoralist in their movements. In an arid environment in which overgrazing is general and where the human and stock populations press heavily upon the sparse grazing resources available there is constant competition for access to pasture and water and frequent lineage strife. This is most acute in the dry seasons but is generally characteristic of the pastoral life as a whole. (Lewis 1994, 28)

Thus, continuous migration was an integral practice in Somalia because the survival of the majority of the population depended on it. In fact, the Somali occupancy of the Horn of Africa was the result of migration. According to Alexander (2001), the ancestral origin of the Somali people was in the highlands of southern Ethiopia. Following a north-to-south route in search of water and pastureland, the Somalis reached the southern shores of the Red Sea by the first century A.D. and had occupied the entire “Horn” by 100 A.D. (p.31).

The problem is that little is known about the Somali and their motivations for secondary and subsequent migrations within the United States. In Somalia, as it has been made clear, migrations were linked to survival; but what are the motivations when the natural environment is

no longer an opponent in the struggle to survive. Secondly, why are the secondary migrations so large? In each of the cases outlined earlier, the destination communities were facing large influxes of Somali over a short period of time. If clan rather than the aspirations of the individual influenced these secondary migrations, then this would begin to explain the size and swiftness with which the Somali migrate in the United States. By better understanding the motivation and organization – if any – behind Somali secondary and subsequent migrations, destination communities can be better informed of what to expect and how to prepare for this population. By being better prepared, destination communities can avoid some of the problems – such as the financial issues – experienced by communities such as Columbus, Lewiston, and Emporia.

Purpose and Scope of the Study

The overall purpose of this research is to extend the knowledge gained in the study of the Somali global diaspora by focusing on the spatial aspects of the Somali in the United States. A good example would be identifying common attributes in their migration destinations. The current trend for studying the Somali compare globally dispersed Somalis by focusing on questions regarding how cultural, political, economic, social, and racial context inform Somali identity formations and opportunity structures (Kusow and Bjork 2007). While these aspects are very important, the group's spatial distribution within their host society is just as critical because opportunity is heavily influenced by location (Darden, Bagaka's and Ji 1997). In addition, culture, politics, the economy, and the social and racial climate of one's surroundings are subject to change dependent on location.

The processes of migration results in consequence – either negative or positive – to both the origin and the destination communities. Population movements are generally seen as having a negative effect on the originating community and a positive effect on the destination community; but, in some instances, the migration can be burdensome on the destination community (Clark 1986). The probability of burden is high when dealing with refugees because this population typically has a lower rate of labor force participation; as refugees, some may be traumatized and unprepared for employment while others – because of their age – are simply not productive workers (Gold 1992). It is generally accepted that refugees – after moving in secondary migrations – tend to cluster (to gather together) in particular locations despite resettlement policies of dispersion (Black 2001). There is a possibility that Somalis are dispersing (spreading out or scattering) and clustering – dispersing from their initial resettlement communities and clustering in new communities by clan. If this is true, this ‘reshuffling’ can be detrimental in some situations. The U.S. policy of refugee dispersion is meant to prevent strain on communities with respect to jobs, housing, and social services. Communities identified for refugee resettlement by the ORR are based on a select set of criteria and are backed by an allotted amount of government funding. If the refugees are not self-sufficient in the new clusters formed by secondary and subsequent migrations, the negative impact – with respect to federal monies – could be multiplied in that more communities outside designated resettlement communities are affected. Somalis are of particular concern given the social constructs of race, religion, and culture, which often put them at odds with the majority of American society. These odds are compounded by linguistic and literacy barriers – in addition to health and psychological issues. Given the perceived differences, Somalis are believed to be more difficult to resettle – requiring more time, more funds, and more assistance for many needs. It is this belief that

facilitated former Senator Sam Brownback's rejection of the resettlement of Somali Bantu in Kansas (Barnett 2003).

The influence of clan can be found throughout Somali society, and if the traditional ways of the Somali are being reproduced here, then – to a lesser extent – the factors that facilitate clan dependence are present here and the Somalis are simply relying on historic traditions to adapt. If this is the case, then resettlement policies are compounding the situation by treating the Somalis as one ethnic group when they are actually several distinct ethnic groups, and the secondary migration is simply a way to reconstitute clan cohesion for safety and security. The clan is a vital part of Somali history and clan conflict over resources was one of the primary factors facilitating the Somali diaspora (Besteman 1999). In Somalia clans are, to some extent, associated with specific regions of the country. According to Brons (2001), the original territorial distribution of Somali clans is no longer distinct like it was at the end of the nineteenth century, but in contemporary political settings, clans do claim specific territories – these claims are predicated on traditional rights of access and control. Territoriality is thus a part of Somali history and the association of specific clans with specific regions continues today in Somalia. Therefore, another underlying purpose of this research is to determine if these aspects of Somali society reconstituted in the global diaspora within the United States. If clan cohesion is reconstituted in the secondary migrations of the Somali, there is the possibility that the territorial aspect is also reconstituted.

The scope of this research is limited to the identification and examination of factors influencing Somali secondary migration. This research uses several social, economic, and

demographic variables; the variables themselves are used in the context of identifying factors associated with Somali secondary migration – i.e. descriptors of spatial processes. There is a possibility that the analysis of these variables might highlight factors underlying inequalities in the spatial location of the Somali; however, addressing these inequalities is beyond the scope of this research. In addition, Somali secondary migrations are heavily influenced by the destination communities; the motivations for the communities to accept or rejected the Somali secondary migrants, however, is also beyond the scope of this research. The importance of this research is that it will contribute to a foundation that will open the door for future research that will eventually address any inequalities found in the spatial location of the Somalis.

Theoretical Framework

Ethnic Origins

The theoretical basis for this research is Jeremy Hein’s “ethnic-origins”. According to Hein (2006), there is mounting evidence that the history, culture, and politics of an immigrant group shapes the way the immigrant group adapts to certain aspects of American society. Culture refers to an entire way of life of a group of people; it is the values, beliefs, practices, and behaviors that define and differentiate one group from another (Frazier 2006).

For the Somali, their culture is that of segmentary lineage or kinship⁸. In Somali society, kinship – to some degree – determines who to marry, where to live, how to raise children, how to

⁸ According to Lewis (1982), the segmentary Somali lineage system has five major divisions; clan-family, clan, sub-clan, primary lineage, and dia-paying group. This is a hierarchical division with the clan-family at the upper limits of clanship. The clan represents the upper limit of political action and has territorial properties. The primary lineage is the exogamous political unit and the dia-paying group is the most basic political unit.

solve disputes, and more (Holly 1996). The foundation of the kinship system is the social contract (*xeer*); some believe close group bonds formed not because of shared ancestry, but because of explicit treaties defining the terms of their collective unity and regulating their behavior as individuals via a system of delicts (Mohamed 2007). This implies cultural norms – from the social contract – that have been instilled over centuries. These are cultural norms that would not simply dissipate through transplantation to another country – especially in the limited amount of time that the Somali have been here in the United States. Thus, utilizing ethnic-origins as a basis to identify Somali adaptation methods proves ideal because their actions can be traced back to certain aspects of their culture and the social contract.

The purpose of “ethnic-origins” – as conceived by Hein (2006) – is to explain the differences seen in the amount of time it takes for immigrants to adapt to life in America and the differences are explained by looking at the group’s history in their country of origin. Hein used Cambodian and Hmong refugees in his analysis of how the history, politics, and culture they bring with them shape the way they adapt to American race and ethnic relations. These two populations were chosen because both are subsumed within the same American racial categorization as Asian, Southeast Asian, or ‘Other Asian.’ Both groups entered at relatively the same time and under the same venue as refugees. In addition, both groups occupied the same low position on the American class hierarchy upon arrival in the United States; class background is considered one of the more important factors shaping the adaptation of contemporary immigrants (p.37). Despite these remarkable similarities on American soil, the Cambodian and Hmong history, politics, and culture are vastly different. The ethnic-origins hypothesis posits that “immigrant groups with distinct ethnic origins will have different forms of racial and ethnic

adaptation, even when these groups are similar in physical appearance, mode of incorporation, and socioeconomic status” (p.34). In effect, immigrant groups with different histories will apply different strategies for coping with the American assimilation process. This will occur regardless of how similar the groups are biologically, how similar the situation that led to their entry into the United States, or how similar their reception upon entry into the United States. Hein stipulates that concepts nurtured in the country of origin pertaining to societal membership such as religious values and kinship norms influence how the immigrants interpret and adapt to adversities, inequalities, and new identities in their host society (p.7).

Although Hein (2006) conceptualizes and uses “ethnic-origins” to examine racial and ethnic adaptation drawing parallels between the transplantation of ethnic boundaries (the cohesiveness of the group) and the propensity for mobilization, he also stressed that “all forms of immigrant adaptation involve an interaction between immigrant conditioning in their country of origin and conditions in the host society” (p.25). It is from this acknowledgement – that an immigrant’s culture and tradition play a continuing and vital role in various aspects of immigrant adaptation – that I base my hypothesis of clan allegiance influencing the spatial distribution of Somalis in America. The major contribution of the theory of ethnic-origins is that it shows that a group’s origin and cultural past can be used to explain the basis of many of their actions in the present. The major drawback of the theory, however, is that it is more suitably applied to first generation immigrants.

Behavioral Approach to Migration

In examining Somali motivations for migration, this research follows a behaviorally oriented approach to migration – this is an approach that attempts to replace the concept of the economic man⁹ and its assumptions of profit maximization with more realistic motivations for migration. According Cadwallader (1992), any attempt to analyze migration using the behavioral approach should incorporate the human capital theory; therefore, this research will be grounded by the human capital theory of migration where migration is seen as an investment in the future. The human capital perspective draws attention to how the decision to migrate is made at the microlevel – individuals consider the cost and benefits of migration and migrate if they believe the benefits outweigh the costs (Gurak and Kritz 2000). Sjaastad (1962) was among the first to recognize the human agency and the temporal element when trying to account for differential earnings in light of net migration and theories of labor market equilibrium; migration should be treated as a time dependent investment where the benefits of a move are not immediately noticed. The investment is seen as increasing the human potential; therefore, it is an investment in human capital because the investment increases the productivity of human resources (Clark 1986). Proponents of this behavioral approach, “have been able to demonstrate that a wide range of social phenomena can be attributed to individual decisions involving the postponement of present gains for the expectation of future gains” (Cadwallader 1992, 115). Cadwallader also recognized that the human capital model not only incorporates the financial aspects of migration, but also the nonfinancial aspects such as expected gains in amenities and services. In this light, this research incorporates a wide spectrum of independent variables that reflect the spirit of the

⁹ Economic man is defined as an imaginary ‘perfectly rational person’ who, by always thinking marginally, maximizes his or her economic welfare and achieves consumer equilibrium (Businessdictionary.com 2010).

behavioral approach's assertion of the value of nonfinancial aspects as possible determinants of migration.

Network Approach to Migration

Another aspect that should be considered while studying the motivation for Somali migration in the United States is the network approach. This approach places emphasis on migration being imbedded in a series of ethnic, political, familial, and communal relationships (Gold 2005). The network approach is highly applicable to the Somali in light of the prevalence of clan-based allegiances that permeates Somali society – both at home and abroad. An investigation of networks allows for the understanding of the migrant's immersion in multiple levels of collective connections (p.277). Networks of relations provide for potential and actual resources, like access to jobs, which suggests that they are a form of social capital (Raghuram, Henry and Bornat 2010). Social capital is defined as “a person's or group's sympathy towards another person or group that may produce a potential benefit, advantage, and preferential treatment for another person or group of persons beyond that expected in an exchange relationship” (Robison, Schmid and Siles 2002, 6). Social capital denotes a web of loyalties and obligations that develop between people leaving a sense of commitment that induces the extension favors and expectation of preferential treatment (Gold 2005). This form of capital, therefore, enables individuals to command scarce resources by virtue of their membership in social networks or broader social structures (Portes 1995).

The preceding concepts are used to guide this research by informing of what to look for in the analysis of the subject group. For example, the ethnic-origins hypothesis posits that immigrant groups will apply traditions from their country of origin as a method of adaptation in

their new environment. In Somalia, the nomads relied on the ancient tradition of *sahan* where they would send out scouts on reconnaissance to find suitable pastures and water for livestock. When the scouts reported back from their exploratory expedition with news of desirable pastures and other relevant information for survival, camp would be broken and the nomads would migrate to that area (Abdullahi 2001). The tradition of *sahan* has been transplanted from Somalia and put into practice in the United States, but modified for a more modern environment. According to Tilove (2002), even though the Somali reconnaissance of Lewiston took place via Internet, telephone, and air travel, it all began with the Somali concept of *sahan*. Powell (2002), in an article for the Washington Post describing the events that took place in Lewiston, wrote that the Somali sent out seven men in the four cardinal directions from Atlanta, GA. Once they found Lewiston, they researched its crime statistics, unemployment rate, and housing. The men reported back to the elders in Atlanta that Lewiston was “a dream place” and by February of 2001, the first group of Somalis was on a Greyhound bus headed for Lewiston (Powell 2002). This event serves as a prime example of immigrants applying traditional ways in a new environment as posited by the ethnic-origins hypothesis.

Research Questions

The overall goal of this research is to gain insight into the Somali population here in the United States. This will be achieved by examining the following research questions; (1) is Somali migration(s) related to clan more so than other socio-demographic variables? (2) Are clans establishing areas of dominance that could affect the future flow of migration? For example, would members of the Somali clans who still adhere to clan traditions avoid certain

cities¹⁰ if they know that members of a rival clan make up the majority of the Somali population in that city? Some of the specific questions that this research will address include; (1) are the cities where the Somali are initially resettled diversified with respect to clan-families? (2) Have the Somali dispersed from their original sites of resettlement? (3) What socio-demographic factors are associated with the distribution of Somalis? (4) What socio-demographic factors are associated with Somali migration within the United States? (5) Are there cities associated with specific clans and what are the factors related to that association. It is important that we understand the motivations for Somali migration because, as mentioned earlier, the Somali are a growing segment of our population and given the continuing instability in Somalia, the Somali population in the United States will continue to grow via new infusions from Somalia well into the foreseeable future.

Data and Methods

To answer the questions mentioned above, this research will draw upon both quantitative and qualitative data and methods. The quantitative data was acquired from a variety of public databases and analyzed using a variety of statistical tools. The qualitative aspect is delivered via participant observation, surveys and unstructured interviews designed to collect information from both open and close ended questions. The predominant reason for mixing the qualitative with the quantitative – as noted by Bryman (2006) – is for comprehensibility of research findings

¹⁰ According to the U.S. Census, a city is defined as a type of incorporated place in the 49 states and the District of Columbia. An incorporated place is a type of governmental unit incorporated under state law having legally prescribed limits, powers, and functions (www.census.gov/geo/www/geo_defn.html#Place).

with one method enhancing the results of the other method. To answer the research questions, I arranged the methodology in a logical progression consisting of five steps.

In the first step, I will use Simpson's Index of Diversity and data from the ORR's Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System (WRAPS) to determine if the cities where the Somali are initially resettled diversified with respect to clan-families. I hypothesized that these resettlement cities were originally highly diversified with respect to the settlement of Somalis from different clan-families. The logic behind this step is to show the degree of diversity which will lead to hypotheses regarding motives for the Somali secondary migrations given the history of conflict between the clans in Somalia. In the second step, I will use data from the WRAPS in conjunction with data prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau from the 2000 Census to calculate a relative clustering index to determine if Somalis are dispersing from their original settlement sites. The relative clustering index is a measure of clustering; however, knowledge about Somali dispersion will be gained by analyzing the clustering. I hypothesize that Somalis disperse from their initial resettlement communities therefore becoming more diffused throughout the United States. Assertions have been made about the changing geography of the Somali, but to this researcher's knowledge, the assertion has never been empirically tested. I posit that when some Somali are resettled, they are resettled in areas populated by rival groups; the inherent tension facilitates the revival of traditional behaviors whereby the reliance on clan for safety and security is necessitated. With clan allegiance rekindled, the group migrates to communities that are more favorable to their growth and prosperity. Steps three and four involve the determination of social, economic, and demographic factors associated with the distribution of Somalis. In the third step I will use a multitude of social, economic, and demographic

variables from several government databases and subject them to a principal components regression (PCR). The goal of this step is to determine the order of factors that may have the most influence on the residential distribution of Somalis across the American landscape. The list of variables will not be all-inclusive, but it will contain over thirty variables based on eleven aspects I believe to be important in the residential distribution of the Somali. The aspects will range from crime to public housing to employment. This process will be repeated in the fourth step in order to determine the factors that may have the most influence in determining Somali migration destinations.

The fifth step in this research deviates from the first four in that it will be based on the collection of primary data from the Somalis migrants themselves versus the use of secondary data. In this step, I will rely on a collection of qualitative data from participant observation, unstructured interviews, and surveys designed to elicit information not contained in national databases. Information pertaining to clan-family membership from Somalis admitted for resettlement is collected as part of the initial refugee admissions process – clan membership is used to determine whether the applicant has a profound fear of persecution (Horst 2006). Because of this aspect of the admissions process, there is a count of the Somali admitted to the United States by clan membership. From this admission information, an assessment of the initial distribution of the Somali by clan-family can be made. Outside of the information on clan-family membership collected on entry, there are no other procedures (census or otherwise) which request clan-family affiliation information from the Somali which means there is no way to assess the migration patterns of Somali by clan-family membership in the United States via an established database. Because of this lack of information, surveys, interviews, and participant

observation will be used to obtain knowledge about clan-family membership of the Somali migrants. Specifically, these instruments will be used to determine if there are cities in the United States associated with specific clan-families. These instruments will also be used to identify the factors related to that association. The first survey will be designed for and sent to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that provide refugee services. This survey will be sent to NGOs all across the United States to solicit information about their Somali secondary migrants. The second survey will be localized. This survey will be specifically designed for Somali secondary migrants and will be used in combination with interviews and participant observation in the study area. The data and methods will be discussed in detail in chapter 5.

The Study Area

Columbus, Ohio was chosen as the site for my field research primarily because of the size of its Somali population. For the 2000 census, there were 2,839 Somali living in the City of Columbus (U.S. Census Bureau 2000). The current estimates of the Somali population living in Columbus, however, vary from 30,000 – 50,000 making it the second largest concentration of Somalis in the country behind Minneapolis, Minnesota (Ohio Homeland Security 2010). Another reason for choosing Columbus as a study area was because it was recently the destination point for a group of 300-plus Somali secondary migrants (Ohio Refugee Services 2006). Both of the aforementioned reasons made Columbus the ideal study area because of the inherent effect on widening the potential pool of subjects.

Significance of the Study

This research differs primarily in two ways from other studies of immigrant locational determinants. The first concerns the group to be analyzed and the second concerns the method of analysis. First of all, to this researcher's knowledge, no one has quantitatively analyzed the locational determinants of the Somali population in the United States. Secondly, I use a Principal Components method of analysis instead of the linear regression in identifying locational determinants. This method was chosen because it allows for the retention of more variables without succumbing to the bias introduced via tolerance issues when analyzing sociological data (Jolliffe 2002).

The importance of this research is that it can serve as an initiating point for further research in other countries included in the Somali diaspora. By focusing on the spatial aspect of the Somali population, comparisons can be made which can be included in the overall framework for studying the Somalis in the global diaspora. This research also has the potential to effect policy with respect to the initial placement of Somali refugees. If it is discovered that Somali secondary migrations are primarily due to the desire to reconstitute communities based on kinship and clan rather than country of origin bonds - then the impetus to rethink the resettlement procedures with respect to Somali refugees might be warranted. Media reports associated with the case studies incorporated into this introduction indicate that when the Somali migrate, a substantial amount of resources are needed to help them settle into their new environment – by re-thinking resettlement procedures, the loss of valuable resources might be avoided. The overall significance of this research is that it will add to the small body of literature that currently exists on the Somalis living in the United States.

Summary of Remaining Chapters

While the preceding passages briefly highlight some of the themes and mechanics of this research, a more in-depth review is needed to fully understand the underlying logic. In the second chapter, I focus on the Somali; in line with the theory of ethnic origins, a thorough understanding of Somali history and conflict help to form the basis for understanding their motives and actions in the present. In this chapter, I discuss aspects of Somali culture, the post-1960 events which facilitated the flow of refugees from Somalia, and Somali resettlement in America. In the third chapter, I explain in detail the concept of refugees and refugee resettlement – an understanding of the resettlement process is necessary for an understanding of the numbers, distribution, and general behavior of these new Americans. The fourth chapter is reserved for the literature review. In the fourth chapter, I examine the research that has been done on the Somali and refugees in general; I make the distinction between the two because of the themes in the literature – research on the Somali neglect locational determinants and research on locational determinants neglect the Somali. The remaining chapters – five through seven – are devoted to research methodology, research findings, and finally, the conclusions drawn from this research.

CHAPTER 2: THE SOMALI

This research examines the distribution of the Somali in the United States by referencing prominent features of their society in an attempt to uncover its influence on their migratory practices. While there is little acknowledgement that clan allegiance is reconstituted in the Somali global diaspora, there is overwhelming evidence of its past and present effect on the war-torn region of Somalia. In this chapter, I introduce Somalia and Somalia's history to put the influence that clan has on the Somali populace into perspective.

Somalia

Geography and Climate of Somalia

Somalia is a country on the far eastern coast of the African Continent in the geographic formation aptly known as the 'Horn of Africa' because the physical change between the land and the sea (Figure 2.1) is reminiscent of the horn of a rhinoceros (Alexander 2001). Somalia's land area is a little less than 638,000 square kilometers – which is a little smaller than Texas, but a little larger than France – and is bordered by Djibouti and the Gulf of Aden in the north, Ethiopia in the west, Kenya in the south, and the Indian Ocean in the east. Somalia is mostly flat plains and plateaus with mountainous areas to the north. The weather is mainly hot and dry year-round with exception to the northern areas of higher elevation. There are two wet seasons, which bring erratic rainfall to Somalia from April to June and from October to November. The environment is arid to semi-arid which facilitates the nomadic pastoralism that more than half the population practices (Putnam and Noor 1993).

Figure 2.1: Geographic location of Somalia. For interpretation of the references to color in this and all other figures, the reader is referred to the electronic version of this dissertation.



According to Lewis (1982), because of the extreme environment, nomadism became the prevailing economic response and mode of livelihood to adjust for the scant resources of the unenviable harsh environment. Climate is the motivating factor influencing much of Somali life; for the largely nomadic population, the timing and amount of rainfall serve as crucial elements in determining the adequacy of vegetation for grazing and thus the relative prospects for prosperity (Alexander 2001). The four seasons recognized by the Somali include: two rainy seasons (*gu* and *day*); and two dry seasons (*jiilaal* and *hagaa*). The *gu* rains occur briefly turning the vast desert regions and the plateau into lands suitable for grazing with the growth of lush vegetation. This season is followed by the *hagaa* season, which is typified by drought conditions between July and September, which is thus followed by the *day* rains. The time between December and March is known as the *jiilaal* season and is classified as the harshest season for pastoralists and their herds (Alexander 2001). Somalia receives less than 19.7 inches of rain on average annually – the north and northeastern areas receive as little as 2 to 5.9 inches, but in the southern region, the average annual rainfall ranges anywhere from 12.9 to 19.7 inches. Mean temperatures in Somalia range from 68 to 86 degrees Fahrenheit; the greatest temperature extremes, however, occur in Northern Somalia with temperatures ranging from below freezing in the highlands during *jiilaal* to 113 degrees Fahrenheit during *hagaa*.

The Somali People

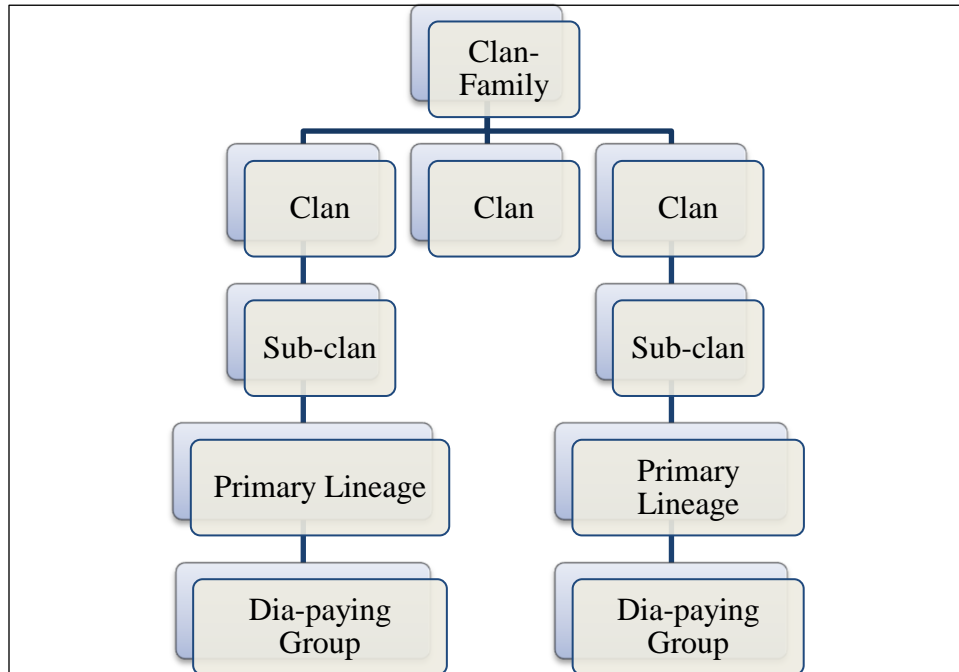
A 2007 estimate placed Somalia's population count at 9.1 million – this was based on extrapolations from a 1975 census taken by the Somali Government. Most calculations of the people in Somalia are estimates based on this year because the enumeration process is hindered by the large number of nomads and by refugee movements in response to famine and clan

warfare (The World Factbook 2008). While the Somali are typically described as being homogenous¹¹, there are a number of segmentations that differentiate the people both ethnically and culturally. Figure 2.2 represents the basic structure of that segmentation found in Somali society.

The Somali come from a clan-based society – kinship groups, or lineages, form the basic building blocks of Somali society and the basis for Somali identity (Lewis 2004). The clan-family represents the upper limits of clanship; however, due to the size of the grouping, it is impossible for the clan-family to serve as a political unit. The clan, as a much smaller grouping, is more manageable and thus marks the upper limits of the political unit. At the base of the lineage system is the dia-paying group – the basic political and jural unit where “contract and clanship meet.” (Lewis 1982, 6). The preceding statement is in reference to the notion that the two concepts are fundamental principles underlying Somali political units (Lewis 1982). The largest segmentation of the Somali people is between the *Samale* and the *Sab*. Brons (2001) classifies this segmentation as the basic divide between the nomadic and the settled Somalis. According to the Brons, the division between the *Samale* and the *Sab* has a discriminatory connotation that still affects Somali society and politics by influencing power relations and conflicts because the *Samale* majority promoted the nomadic lifestyle as noble and created a national identity that marginalized the sedentary Somali – i.e. the *Sab*. The *Samale* make up the largest proportion of the population – they are primarily pastoral nomads and are distributed throughout the land (Lewis 2004).

¹¹ The Somali are considered homogenous; however, there are numerous minority groups also present in Somalia to include the Bantu, the Bajuni, the Barawans, and the Benadiri. The country itself is 85% ethnic Somali and 15% Bantu and other non-Somali (The World Factbook 2008).

Figure 2.2: Basic structure of Somali segmentary lineage.



The *Samale* are divided up into four large clan-families: the Dir, the Darood, the Isaaq, and the Hawiye. The Dir are found in the extreme north and in sections of the south. The Darood can be found in the eastern parts of the north and the central regions of the country. The Isaaq predominantly occupy the northern regions, and the Hawiye are predominately found in parts of the central region with extensions to the south (Abdullahi 2001). The *Sab*, on the other hand, is composed of a related group of peoples who live in southwestern Somalia in the riverine area. The *Sab* is divided up into two main clan-families – the Digil and the Mirifle – who are sometimes collectively known as the Rahanweyn (Abdullahi 2001). The *Sab*, many of whom have more prominent African features, are to a certain extent considered inferior by the *Samale* who claim to be the original Somali and, with that, claim a right to cultural and political domination (Brons 2001). In addition to the main division – *Samale* and *Sab* – based on

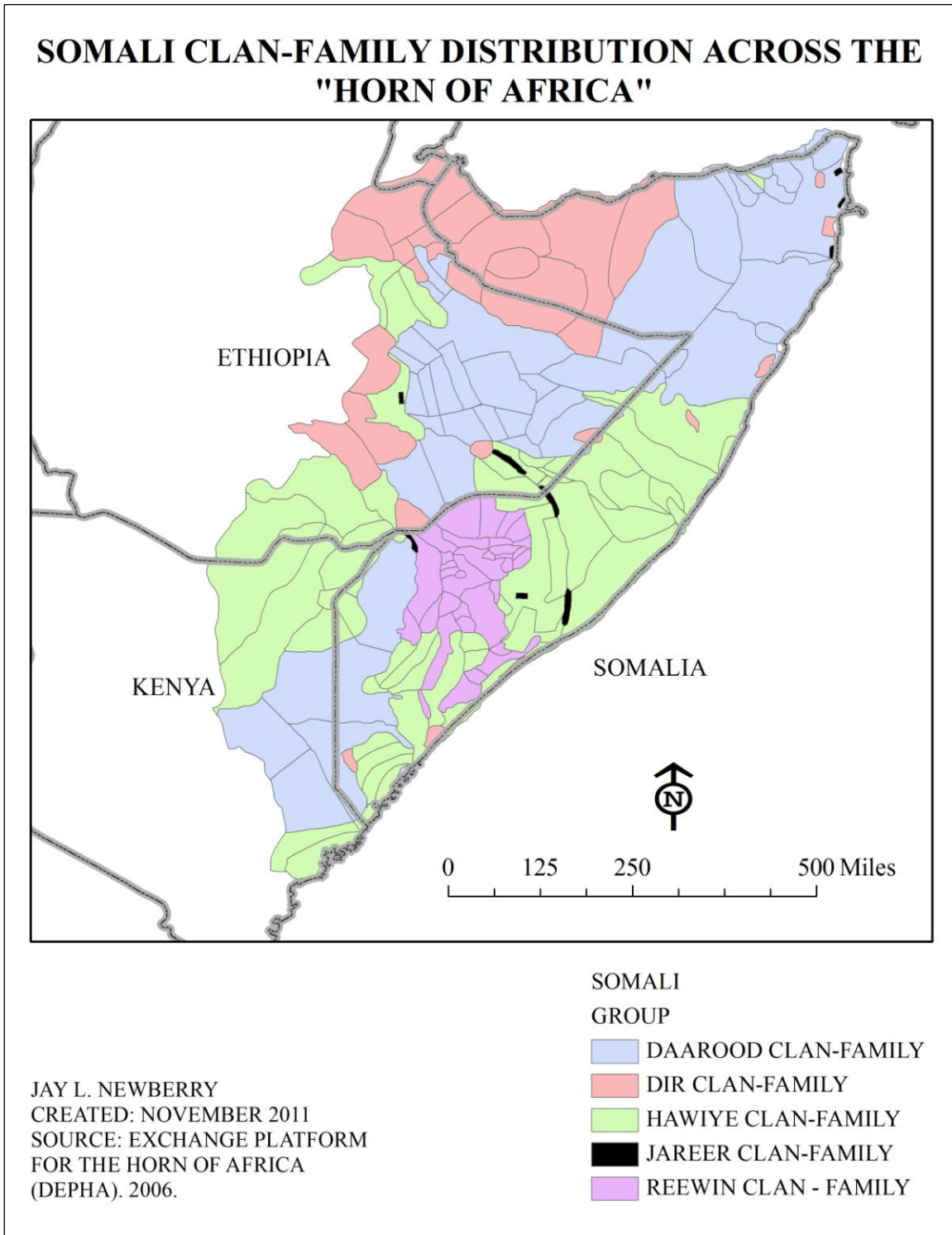
production/settlement patterns¹² and the division into clan-families, the Somali lineage system is continuously segmented into dozens of clans, and hundreds of sub-clans. Figure 2.3 is a map representing the distribution of some of the clan-families¹³ as of year 2006 – this distribution, however, is subject to change as a result of the on-going conflict. A major reason for the incorporation of this map is to support the statements made about the territorial nature of the Somali in their homeland as mentioned earlier in this dissertation. One special point of interest about the distribution of the clan-families is their occupation of lands crossing regional and international boundaries. Territorial borders have been imposed on the Somali, but they have little meaning especially to the nomadic clans in Somalia (Horst 2006).

Appendix Tables A.1 and A.2 contain a partial listing of the numerous clans and sub-clans found in the Somali region. Identifying clans constitutes a complex task, and it would be almost impossible to construct a complete table of the clan groupings because they are akin to living organisms subject to constant division and development (Yoshimura 2009). Thus, like the general areas occupied by clans, which is subject to change, the clan hierarchy is also subject to change with new divisions and segments forming regularly. Therefore, the tables presented may not represent a full account of all the groups present in Somalia. The primary purpose in including such a table is to relay the complex diversity and segmentation that is found within the Somali society. However, despite the society being organized according to the principles of segmentary lineage, there is the common link of Islam between virtually all groups in Somalia. The Islamic faith serves as a horizontal identity that bisects clan alignment (Le Sage 2001).

¹² The Samale are predominantly nomadic pastoralist while the Sab are typically settled farmers.

¹³ In the case of the Isaaq, there is debate as to whether they constitute a clan-family of their own because the Southern Somalis and the Majerteen clan of the Darood claim the Isaaq are a part of the Dir (Yoshimura 2009).

Figure 2.3: Map of the distribution of Somali clan-families in Somalia.



The Arabs brought Islam to Africa in the seventh century and the majority of the Somali population had been converted by the year 1100. By the mid-fifteenth century, the Somali had joined with the Arabs in fighting the Islamic holy wars against Ethiopian Christians (Advameg 2011). Thus, in pre-colonial times, the Somali community recognized two main authorities – clan elders and religious leaders (Le Sage 2001). The affairs of the leaders typically overlapped to the extent that Islam (which nearly all Somali practice) was essentially assimilated into clan culture in a symbiotic relationship that has lasted throughout the colonial and well into the post-colonial period (p.472).

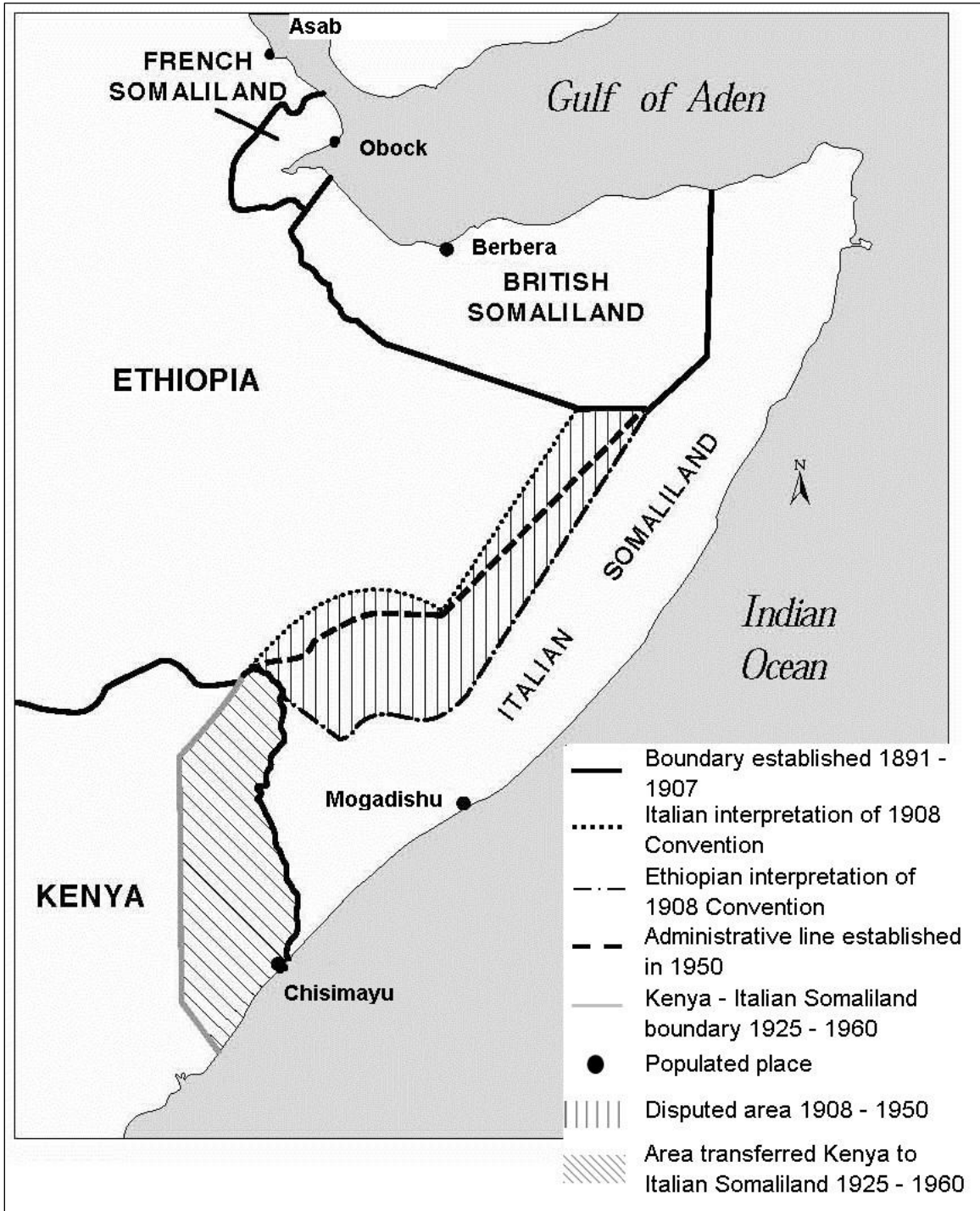
Despite the relative religious and ethnic homogeneity¹⁴ reported amongst the Somali, Somalia has a history of conflict between its clan-families, clans, and smaller sub-clans (Schaid and Grossman 2007). According to Lewis (1982), the first mention of Somali clans appeared in the mid-thirteenth century when the Arab geographer Ibn Sa’iid mentioned the Hawiye near Merca in southern Somalia. The first mention of clan conflict, however, did not occur until the sixteenth century when Arabian historian Shihaab ad-Diin wrote in his *Futuuh al-Habasha* (‘History of the Conquest of Abyssinia’) about the frequency of quarrels and struggles between the Somali lineages to which Lewis notes “took a similar course to that which they follow today” (p.16). Logic suggests, and history confirms, that the conflict and division between the clans and sub-clans would become more defined as an after effect of the colonization in light of the differential treatment and skills the various clans and sub-clans received while subordinate to three opposing colonial powers.

¹⁴ According to Abudullahi (2001), the Somali are 100 percent Sunni Muslims. In addition, it is reported that over 85 percent of the Somali population are ethnic Somalis.

The Colonization of Somalia

By the middle of the 19th Century, Somalia was in the process of being partitioned up primarily by three colonial powers – Britain, France, and Italy (Figure 2.4). The occupation officially began with Britain. In an effort to secure the northern coast from their European competitors, after the opening of the Suez Canal, Britain signed treaties of protection with many of the northern Somali clans between 1884 and 1888 (Abdullahi 2001). Britain’s primary interest was in Aden – which it took possession of in 1839. Britain’s establishment of a garrison at Aden served as a station for ships sailing between India and Europe (Besteman 1999). With the establishment of the garrison, there was a strategic importance to Britain’s interest in Somalia – however, some believe “the Somali region never played more than a secondary role for the powers involved in colonial occupation” (Brons 2001, 130). Some twenty-two years after the British secured Aden, France followed suit by securing the Port of Obock and extending its protectorate over a small block of land inhabited by the Somalis. The Italians soon followed the French as they secured the Port of Asab in 1869. Many point to this occupation by imperial forces as one of the root causes of the conflict that tore the country apart. When colonized countries gain independence, the burdens of the inhabitants are typically far from over due to the lingering effects the colonizers have left. The colonization process not only creates changes in the colonized culture, but also changes are commonly made to spatial boundaries of the colonized regions and the political philosophies governing the people of that land. Somalia represents a special case in that the country was divided up not by a single colonizing power, but by three major colonizing powers.

Figure 2.4: Colonial partitioning of Somali territory mid-19th century.



In addition to the major colonial powers, there were also local powers¹⁵ involved in the dissection of Somalia. One of those powers included Ethiopia which, at that time, was under the rule of Emperor Menelik II. Ethiopia constituted a formidable opponent because Emperor Menelik and his forces were able to thwart any incursion of colonial powers into Ethiopian territory. Ethiopia also competed with the colonial powers for partitions of Somali land (Alexander 2001). The Ogaden region (land acquired by Ethiopia during Somalia's occupation) serves as a prime example of the lingering effects of colonization because Somalia would later be involved in a war with Ethiopia¹⁶. The foundation of the war was based on the attempt to reclaim this land (the Ogaden), which was originally a part of Somalia prior to colonization.

The Aftermath of Colonization

British Somaliland was awarded its independence on 26 June 1960 and united with Italian Somaliland to establish the Somali Republic on 1 July 1960 (Advameg 2011). Even though the British north and the Italian south were again united, the country was far from being unified. Italy and Britain had left the Somalis with two separate legal and administrative systems that conducted business in different languages using different procedures (Alexander 2001). The two regions held divergent views on most aspects. The opposing views were bolstered by the assertions of the southern Somalis who insisted that their education and preparation under Italian rule made them best suited to run the country. Thus, communication between the North and the South was virtually nonexistent. The lack of consensus between the two regions necessitated intervention by the United Nations, which led to the creation of the Consultative Commission for

¹⁵ The other countries bidding for Somali lands included Egypt and Ethiopia.

¹⁶ The Ogaden War fought between 1977 and 1978.

Integration in order to bring the two halves together (Alexander 2001). The problem with political cohesion in Somalia stems from representation. As mentioned previously, the basic building blocks of the society was clan-based, and this became evident in the political arena after independence. The creation and splintering of clan-based political factions along with the formation and dissolution of clan allegiances increased exponentially. Table 2.1 shows the changes in factions holding political seats between the 1964 and 1969. In 1969, the increase to 60 political parties scrambling for the 123 parliamentary seats marred the elections with corruption, violence, chaos, and corruption. Electoral violence led to the eventual assassination of President Abdirashid Shermarke bringing the country to the edge of anarchy (Adam 2008).

Post-Independence: The Siyaad Barre Years

During the turmoil in 1969, General Mohamed Siyaad Barre staged a bloodless coup after President Abdirashid Shermarke was assassinated. Shortly after seizing power, the new president stood on a platform of ‘Scientific Socialism¹⁷’ and stated a goal of uniting the Somali nation and eradicating ancient clan divisions (Lewis 1994). According to Brons (2001), clannism was officially banned – President Barre’s administration attempted to sanitize social life of its clan foundations, and any attempts to reconstitute clan or any form of clan allegiance was punishable by death. In fact, during President Barre’s reign, “imprisonment, extra-judicial killings, torture, and other widespread violations of human rights accompanied political control” (p.178). While trying to suppress the bonds of clan and promote nationalism, however, President Barre covertly relied on clan loyalties to build his own inner circle of power (Lewis 1994).

¹⁷ The Somali practice of socialism became official on the first anniversary of the coup led by General Barre.

Table 2.1: Somali political factions 1964 - 1969.	
30 March 1964 National Assembly Election	
Party	Number of Seats (123)
Somali Youth League (SYL)	69
Somali National Congress (SNC)	22
Somali Democratic Union (SDU)	15
Somali Independent Constitutional Party (HDMS)	9
United Somali Party (USP)	1
Liberal Somali Youth Party (PLGS)	1
Somali National League (SNL)	1
Somali African National Union (SANU)	1
Others	4
26 March 1969 National Assembly Election	
Party	Number of Seats (123)
Somali Youth League (SYL)	73
Somali National Congress (SNC)	11
Somali Independent Constitutional Party (HDMS)	8
Somali African National Union (SANU)	6
Liberal Somali Youth Party (PLGS)	3
Somali Democratic Union (SDU)	2
Popular Movement for Democratic Action (PMDA)	2
Somali Socialist Party (PSS)	2
Somali People's Movement Party (PMPS)	2
Revolutionary Socialist Workers' Party (PRSO)	1
Somali National Solidarity Party (PSNS)	1
United Somali Party (USP)	-
Others	12
Source: African Elections Data @ http://africanelections.tripod.com/so.html	

Barre's ring of power revolved around three relative clans from the Darood clan-family: Marehan – which was the president's own clan, Ogaden – which was the president's mother's clan, and the Dulbahante – which was the president's son-in-law's clan. These three clans – collectively known as the M.O.D. – exercised special power because of their relation to President Barre (Lewis 1994).

Somali Nationalism

According to Besteman (1999), one of President Barre's greatest aspirations was to create a united Somali and to include the Ogaden region in that unification. The Ogaden was under Ethiopian control – but more importantly, the Ogaden was the region of President Barre's mother. Pan-Somalism was the name given to the concept underlying the hope of the unification of all lands populated by Somalis, and it was one of the most important political issues during that time. Preoccupation with the concept shaped the character of the country's newly formed institutions, extended the popularity of President Barre, led to the build-up of the Somali military, and ultimately led to the war with Ethiopia (Alexander 2001). In 1977, the Somali invaded the Ogaden region to reclaim the land which was once theirs prior to colonization, but was forced to retreat when the Soviets switched their backing to the new Marxist Ethiopian government with military support against the Somali incursion (Besteman 1999). The war over the Ogaden region was immensely popular in Somalia at first, and President Barre's public standing had never been higher than at that time, but the terrible defeat “quickly led to widespread public demoralization and to an upsurge of ‘tribalism’ as different groups sought scapegoats to explain the debacle” (Lewis 1989, 575). Many believe the loss of the Ogaden War signified the beginning of President Barre's decline in popularity, his loss of ideological vision,

his acceleration of the manipulation of clan politics, and his rise in tactics of state repression (Besteman 1999). Somalia faced a humiliating loss to Ethiopia, which created an influx of Ogaden refugees into Somali controlled territory exacerbating clan tensions. Awareness of the unequal distribution of state resources based on clan favoritism was becoming a problem. This was especially true in northern Somalia where the Isaaq clan-family was increasingly becoming excluded from state resources in favor of the Ogaden refugees who were backed by the M.O.D. (Besteman 1999).

The Somali Conflict

Escalating conflicts over resources eventually progressed to all out war between clans and factions within clans – Barre’s regime fell in 1991. Mohamud and Kusow (2006) believe that the people of Somali anticipated better leadership and government after the fall of the Barre regime but instead they got warlordism¹⁸. According to Lewis (1989), in their desperate fight for survival, the Barre family and clansmen sought to exploit the full segmentary lineage rivalry within Somalia. Conversely, the continued clan conflict and violence, in conjunction with drought and famine, produced and continues to produce hundreds of thousands of refugees – many of whom eventually became resettled throughout the world in a global diaspora. Table 2.2 represents the top five refugee sending countries between 1997 and 2009. Out of the thirteen years depicted, the Somalis have occupied a place in the top five refugee sending countries for nine of those years. For three of the years that they did not rank in the top five, the Somalis still ranked in the top eight.

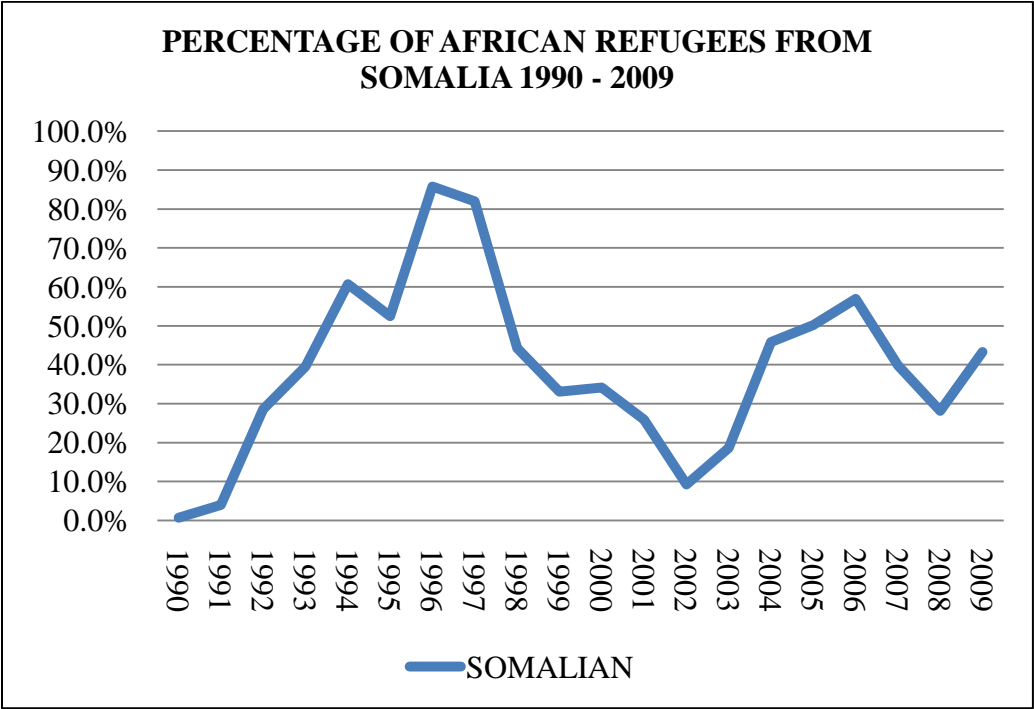
¹⁸ Warlordism is a style of leadership where influential individuals appeal to the sentiments of their clan or sub-clan members in order to advance their own political and economic interests.

Table 2.2: Top five refugee group admissions to the United States 1997 - 2009.

Rank:	COUNTRY	FY1997	COUNTRY	FY1998	COUNTRY	FY1999
1	Russia	27,072	Bos.-Herzegov.	30,906	Bos.-Herzegov.	22,699
2	Bos.-Herzegov.	21,357	Russia	23,349	Serb. and Monte.	14,280
3	Vietnam	6,660	Vietnam	10,288	Vietnam	9,622
4	Somalia	4,974	Somalia	2,951	Ukraine	8,649
5	Cuba	2,911	Iran	1,699	Russia	4,386
Rank:	COUNTRY	FY2000	COUNTRY	FY2001	COUNTRY	FY2002
1	Bos.-Herzegov.	19,033	Bos.-Herzegov.	14,593	Ukraine	5,216
2	Ukraine	7,334	Ukraine	7,172	Bos.-Herzegov.	3,461
3	Somalia	6,026	Iran	6,590	Vietnam	2,988
4	Iran	5,145	Sudan	5,959	Russia	2,105
5	Sudan	3,833	Somalia	4,951	Cuba	1,919
Rank:	COUNTRY	FY2003	COUNTRY	FY2004	COUNTRY	FY2005
1	Ukraine	5,065	Somalia	13,331	Somalia	10,405
2	Liberia	2,957	Liberia	7,140	Laos	8,517
3	Iran	2,471	Laos	6,005	Cuba	6,360
4	Sudan	2,139	Sudan	3,500	Russia	5,982
5	Somalia	1,994	Ukraine	3,482	Liberia	4,289
Rank:	COUNTRY	FY2006	COUNTRY	FY2007	COUNTRY	FY2008
1	Somalia	10,357	Burma	13,896	Iraq	13,755
2	Russia	6,003	Somalia	6,969	Burma	12,852
3	Cuba	3,143	Iran	5,481	Thailand	5,279
4	Vietnam	3,039	Burundi	4,545	Iran	5,257
5	Iran	2,792	Cuba	2,922	Bhutan	5,244
Rank:	COUNTRY	FY2009				
1	Iraq	18,709				
2	Burma	18,275				
3	Bhutan	13,317				
4	Iran	5,374				
5	Cuba	4,800				

The influence of the many push factors (primarily war, but also famine and drought) from Somalia is also aptly captured by the graph in Figure 2.5. This graph indicates (by looking at the peaks which correspond mainly to the escalation of fighting in the region) that the Somali comprised the majority of African refugee admits the first time between 1994 and 1997. The second time they occupied this position was between 2005 and 2006. For the 1990 to 2009 time frame, 41.3 percent of the African refugees admitted to the United States were from Somalia.

Figure 2.5: Percentage of refugees from the African region who are Somali.



Barriers to Unification

According to Lewis (1963), the Somali never constituted a single autonomous political unit – before the partition of their lands by Britain, France, Italy, and Ethiopia, the country was divided into numerous hostile clans. The Somalis did have a common code - they had “a

sentiment of Somali-ness, accompanied by a virtually uniform national Somali culture, and reinforced by the strong adherence of all Somali to Islam” (p.147). So the Somali essentially constituted a nation¹⁹, but “political nationalism was largely absent because of the divisive forces within the nation” (p.147). The divisive forces, more often than not, is rooted in the prevalence of clan and the associated obligations.

Mohamud and Kusow (2006) identified several factors that laid the foundation for the current political crisis and dissolution of the country. The first is the ongoing conflict with Ethiopia that began in the sixteenth century with the Islamic and Christian wars. The second factor hindering the Somali political process and sustaining the inability of Somali politicians to resolve the ongoing national crisis is the divisive politics of clan ideology (p.16). According to Osman (2006):

Over the years the control of the state has been viewed as zero-sum game where the winners take all. Thus, it has become a competition to the bitter end for certain Somali clans where on the one hand they fight for the control of the state and on the other hand prevent others from its control. The method used to enforce the unequal distribution of the state benefits have always been clannism, tribalism and regionalism. (p.74)

While the persistence of clan has consistently been a barrier to national unity, in most cases, the barrier would have emerged before the consolidation of a region into a single political unit. In the case of the Somalis, it came afterwards – as “soon as the political machine of post-independence Somalia started turning, the achievements of nationalist and independence movements gave way to a more divisive clan politics” (p.18).

¹⁹ The definition of nation for our purpose is defined as a culturally distinctive group of people occupying a particular region and bound together by a sense of unity arising from some shared ethnicity, beliefs, and customs (Getis, et al. 2011).

Somali 4.5 System

One of the lasting effects of the Barre regime was that it showed the Somalis that the state and its resources belonged to those in power and the clans of those in power. Those who were kept at bay by those in power, realizing that they have no representation and therefore no rewards associated with the state, intuitively learned to equate the concept of state with clan or clans that occupied the political seats of that state. The convergence of the concepts of clan, representation, and politics is an issue that has yet to reach equilibrium in Somalia.

Since the fall of the state in 1991, the founding of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) – some 15 reconciliation attempts and 13 years later – marked the acknowledgement of a will to accommodate the complex historical, social, and political concerns of the Somali. The TFG's charter recognized the prevalence of clan in Somali politics and sought to find some kind of equilibrium with the 4.5 formula which emerged during the Reconciliation Conference in Djibouti in 2000. According to Hassan and Barnes (2007), the TFG institutions are reportedly based on the so-called '4.5 formula' which was designed to balance and share representation and power in Somalia between four main clan families (Dir, Darood, Hawiye and Rahanweyn), as well as five minority constituencies. Hassan and Barnes assert that the TFG's constituent parts appear to reflect the "4.5 formula" superficially, but later admit that the perception of many in southern Somalia is that the TFG is primarily a Darood institution. According to Eno and Eno (2009), the 4.5 system can be interpreted as the separation of the Somali people into four clans that are considered "pure" Somali and therefore equal (the "4" from the formula). This is in opposition to an amalgamation of various minority clans and groups that are unequal (the "0.5" from the formula) and therefore "impure" or less-Somali. Thus, from the start, the 4.5 formula

represented a system of “absolute discrimination and severe ethnic marginalization” (Eno and Eno 2009, 138).

While there are those who would applaud the 4.5 formula and bill it as a big step in equalizing the power distribution amongst the various clans at the state-level, others would denounce it as legalized discrimination and a show of blatant ethnocentrism. The groups that constitute the ‘.5’ have little representation – and therefore little power. The groups that constitute the ‘4’, who have equal representation and the associated power, would push for more – or even all – of the power. This notion is aptly captured in Brian J. Hess’s (2010) analogy linking the Somali politics and power scene to the Somali parables of predation:

The lion, the jackal, the wolf and the hyena agreed to hunt together, and to split their kills. After cooperatively killing a camel, the lion asked ‘Who divides the meat?’ The wolf volunteered to divide the meat, as he could count. He promptly cut four pieces, each of equal size, and placed the pieces in front of the hunters. Angry, the lion swiped the wolf across his eyes with his massive paws and claws causing the wolf to cower in bloodied pain. ‘Is this any way to count?’ roared the lion. The jackal intervened. ‘The wolf does not know how to count. I will divide the meat’. The jackal then cut three small portions for the wolf, the hyena and himself. He placed the largest, best piece in front of the lion, who promptly collected his share and departed. The wolf, the hyena and the jackal were left with their relative scraps. ‘Why did you give the lion such a large piece? Why is he entitled?’ asked the hyena. ‘I learned from the wolf’, replied the jackal. ‘You learned from the wolf?’ cried the hyena. ‘How can anyone learn from the wolf? He is stupid’. Still nursing his injured eyes, the wolf ended the debate: ‘The jackal is right. He knows how to count. Before, when my eyes were open, I did not see. Now, though my eyes are wounded, I see clearly’. (p. 254)

Hess’s rendition of the Somali parable includes four main characters symbolizing the four groups currently sided against the TFG who are not content with their share of the power and desire more – if not all: (1) al-Shabaab, primarily drawn from the Hawiye clan; (2) Hizbul Islam, with militiamen drawn primarily from the Darood; (3) Raas Kaambooni, with militiamen drawn primarily from the Mohamed Subeer subclan of Darood; and (4) Anoole/al-Furqaan with

militiamen drawn primarily from the Majeerteen, Warsengeli, and Dhulbahante sub-subclans of Darood (Hesse 2010, 254).

The tail end of the graph in Figure 2.5 displayed earlier shows a sharp climb in the number of refugees from Africa who are Somali after the year 2008. This can be explained by the 2007 humanitarian crisis, which occurred in Mogadishu displacing nearly 300,000 residents. According to Menkhaus (2007), in June of 2007, the capital – Mogadishu – was caught in the grip of heavy fighting between the TFG and a complex insurgency of clan militias, warlords and Somali Islamists who were seeking more power. This fighting, which was sporadic at times, lasted for months destroying hospitals, entire neighborhoods and infusing the global diaspora with a new flow of Somali refugees.

Somali Refugee Resettlement in the United States

Since the early 1990s, the Somali have been coming to America in fairly large numbers as a result of the conflict between warring factions in Somalia. Prior to 1990, there were relatively few Somali in the United States – less than 2300. By the year 2000, the U.S. Census placed the Somali population count at 36,313. Surprisingly, compilations of data from the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Refugee Resettlement, reveals a different picture. The number of Somali refugees, asylees, and non-immigrants admitted to the United States between 1990 and 1999 alone was 36,693. There are a number of reasons for the conflicting accounts of the number of Somali in the United States. Some believe that the Somali are undercounted in the census because they live in inner-city neighborhoods that are often avoided by census employees out of fear. In addition, the Somali are fearful of government

officials because of past experiences in Somalia, so they avoid government representatives whenever possible (Goza 2007). Whatever their reasons maybe, given the multiple categories under which Somalis gain entrance into the United States and the inherent shortfalls in census coverage of this population, any count of the Somali in this country is sure to be conservative. Despite the discrepancies in count, there is consensus that Columbus, OH and Minneapolis, MN have the largest concentrations of Somalis in the United States (Kusow 2006). Figure 2.6 and Table 2.3 present a graphical and numerical representation of Somali admissions from 1990 through 2009. Each peak and trough in the graph, and the corresponding numerical data from the table, can be traced to events at both the state and international scales with respect to the number of Somali admissions.

Figure 2.6: Somali admissions 1990 - 2009.

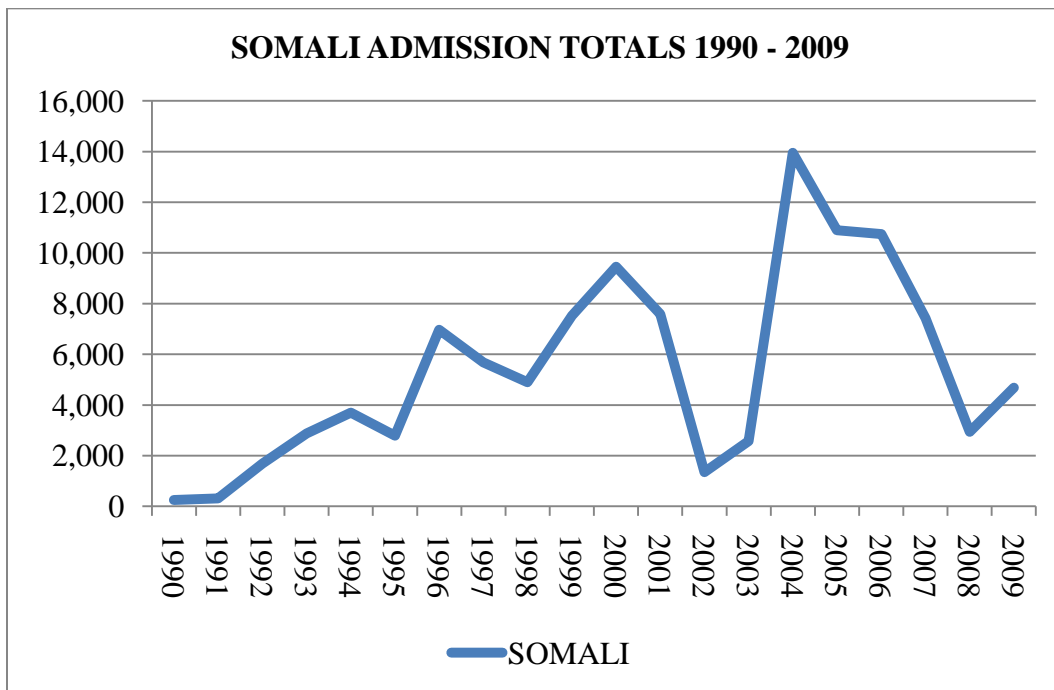


Table 2.3: Somali admissions by category 1990 - 2009.

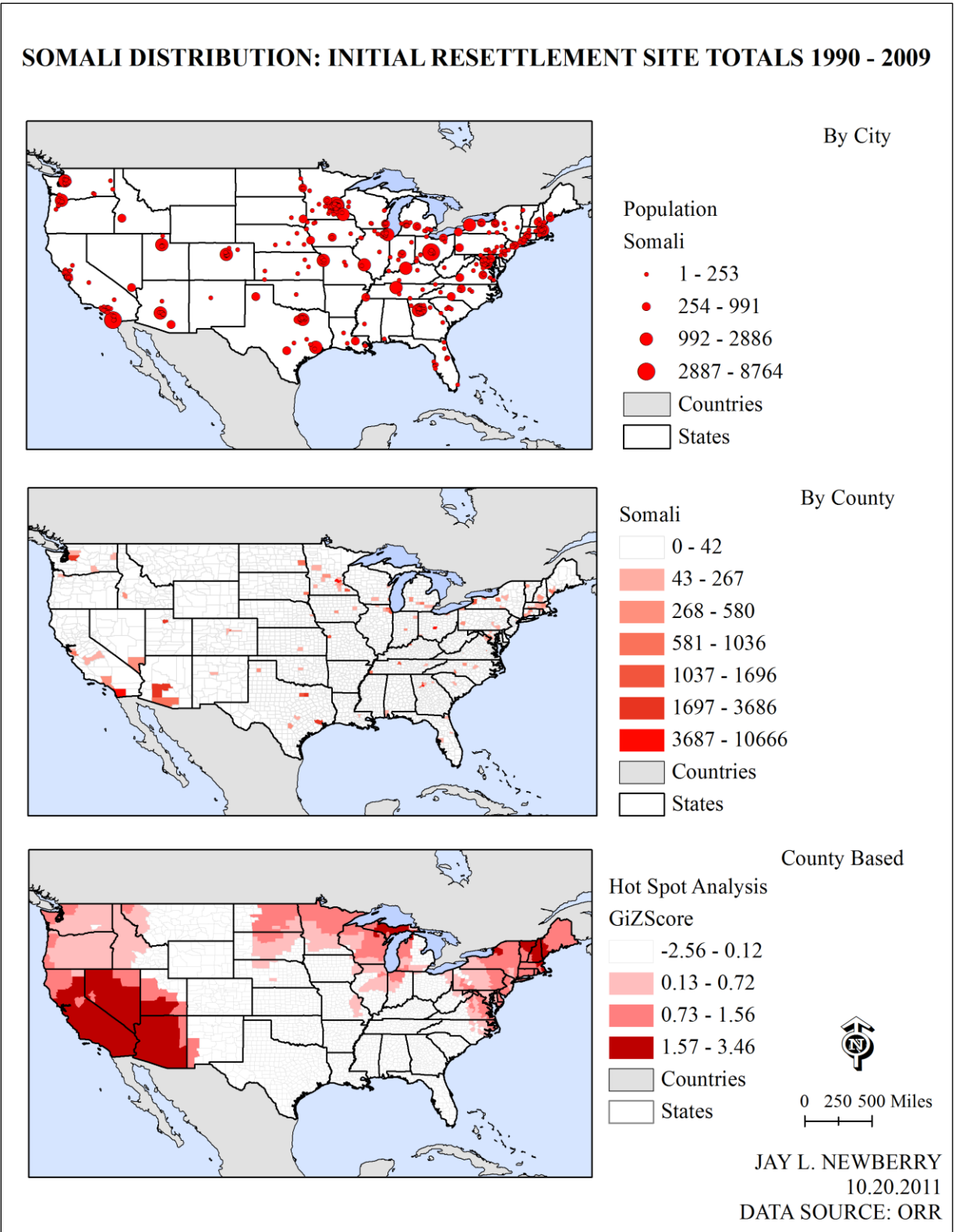
Year	Refugees	Asylees	I-94	Total	Cumulative Total
1990	52	204		256	256
1991	192	117		309	565
1992	1,570	122		1,692	2,257
1993	2,753	121		2,874	5,131
1994	3,555	150		3,705	8,836
1995	2,506	286		2,792	11,628
1996	6,436	529		6,965	18,593
1997	4,974	708		5,682	24,275
1998	2,951	1,310	634	4,895	29,170
1999	4,320	2,312	891	7,523	36,693
2000	6,026	2,404	1,025	9,455	46,148
2001	4,951	1,633	1,004	7,588	53,736
2002	237	667	441	1,345	55,081
2003	1,994	291	289	2,574	57,655
2004	13,331	235	383	13,949	71,604
2005	10,405	162	328	10,895	82,499
2006	10,357	163	223	10,743	93,242
2007	6,969	180	271	7,420	100,662
2008	2,523	169	248	2,940	103,602
2009	4,189	254	243	4,686	108,288
Total:	90,291	12,017	5,980	108,288	
Percent of Total:	83.4%	11.1%	5.5%	100.0%	
AVG (Year):	4514.6	600.9	498.3	5414.4	

Source: Data compiled from Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Refugee Resettlement special tabulation.

Between 1990 and 2009, over 108,000 Somalis were admitted to the United States. Of those who entered, 83.4 percent were admitted as refugees, 11.1 percent were admitted as asylees, and 5.5 percent were admitted as I-94 non-immigrants. On average, 5414.4 Somalis were admitted each year. The Somali who were resettled in the United States via the refugee resettlement program between 1990 and 2009 were resettled in over 47 states. Five of the 47 states accounted for 46.8 percent of their placement – Minnesota (18 percent), California (8.3 percent), Georgia (7.1 percent), Texas (6.8 percent), and Ohio (6.6 percent). On a smaller geographic scale, the Somali have been resettled in over five hundred cities between 1990 and 2009 (Figure 2.7), but four cities in particular account for the largest percentage of the placement – Minneapolis MN (9.9 percent), San Diego CA (5.7 percent), Columbus OH (5.5 percent), and Seattle WA (3.2 percent).

The major clan-families in Somalia – in addition to being different in subtle linguistic and cultural ways – differed in proportionality. The Darood constituted 22 percent of the population, the Isaaq constituted 17 percent, the Dir constituted 7 percent, the Hawiye constituted 25 percent, and the Rahanweyn constituted 17 percent – the remainder of the population was composed of the minority (Akiwumi and Estaville 2009). The resettled Somali population within the United States, however, reveals a distribution that is quite different (Table 2.4). The Somali groups considered as minorities in Somalia constituted the majority of the Somalis resettled in the United States. The term “minority,” as used by both Somalis and non-Somalis, is said to refer to any clan or community that does not belong to one of the four major clan-families that are considered to be “noble” – the Darood, the Hawiye, the Isaaq, and the Dir (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1995).

Figure 2.7: Somali distribution according to the ORR initial community of resettlement.



Out of the major clan-families, as identified by the individual refugees on admission, the Darood constituted the largest percentage making up close to one-fourth of the Somali that were resettled in the U.S. between 1990 and 2009. The remaining major clan-families combined constituted less than 3 percent of the resettled Somali.

Table 2.4: Resettlement figures by clan-family membership 1990 - 2009.			
Majority Groups	% of Resettled	Minority Groups	% of Resettled
Darood	21.28 %	Benadir	7.13 %
Hawiye	1.22 %	Midgan	1.31 %
Rahanweyn	0.71 %	Others	59.5 %
Issaq	0.63 %	Unknown	7.97 %
Dir	0.26 %	Total:	75.9 %
Total:	24.1 %		100.0 %

The geography of the Somalis in the United States is rapidly changing. According to Schaid and Grossman (2007), Somalis are rapidly diffusing out from larger metropolitan areas in secondary migrations, and settling in smaller frontier communities. The establishment of the Somali population in these new communities is thus reinforced through affidavits of relationship which spurs ORR considerations of the community as a new site for refugee resettlement. This new ORR designation for the community, however, may take years to establish.

Corruption in the Refugee Priority 3 Program

Refugees are resettled in the United States in accordance with three priorities. The first two priorities address those persons or groups at imminent risk and those persons or groups of special interest or humanitarian concern to the United States. The third priority (P-3) is for

persons identified for family reunification. In the summer of 2008, the P-3 program was suspended due to widespread fraud “when U.S. officials found that most refugees from Africa using the P-3 program were not related at all. The fraud rate among Somali refugees was reported to be as high as 90 percent” (Barnett 2010). As part of a pilot program, The State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) and The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) began DNA testing of three hundred applicants in response to allegations of fraud within the program. The pilot test revealed a high rate of fraud which facilitated an expansion of the testing to incorporate more countries in Africa – where more than 95 percent of the P-3 applicants reside. Most of the three thousand P-3 applicants in the expanded tests came from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Liberia (Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration 2009). Based on the results of the expanded testing, all applications for the program were stopped in order to allow time for the development and implementation of new procedures to verify family relationship claims. To this researcher’s knowledge, the family reunification program has yet to be restarted.

American Concerns about Somalis

There could be many reasons for the issues we call “fraud” within the family reunification program. One reason could be purely based on the United States Government’s concept of what constitutes a family and its inherent link with DNA. While the United States Government’s notion of immediate family is still heavily influenced by biological association, persons from a war zone might conceive family simply as those who have taken care of them for the largest portion of their life without regards to biology. There have been many instances where children, who just lost their parents in the carnage, were picked up by other adults who

then took care of them like their own. No matter what the cause, however, the fraud issue is just one more event that feeds into the negative image some of the more racist elements in American society try to use in their portrayal of the Somali immigrant. As with changes in immigration policies after 1965²⁰, refugee policy changes under the 1980 Refugee Act expanded the regions from which refugees were accepted. The opponents of refugee resettlement adhere to the same argument cast against other non-European immigrants. They argue that the new admits are drastically different from the primarily “European stock of previous periods” and they have little chance of assimilating (Frazier and Margai 2003, 25).

Somali Americans Linked to Terrorism

There are other issues pertaining to the Somali that have raised American concerns about their admission to the United States. The most pressing concern was the Somali link to terrorism. There was growing concern about the role of *Al Itihad al Islaami* in sustaining the *Al Qaeda* network. In 2001, it was reported that the *Al Qaeda* and *Al Itihad* were operating in Somalia with 3,000 to 5,000 members and 50,000 to 60,000 supporters and reservists (Le Sage 2001). *Al Itihad* was in the process of setting up an Islamic state in the 1990s – the movement was linked (unconfirmed) to the killing of 18 U.S. soldiers during the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) intervention in Mogadishu in 1993 (p.472). In 2008, dozens of young male Somalis in the Minneapolis area disappeared causing community members and government officials to suspect they were returning to the Somalia region to join terrorist groups. This fear was

²⁰ The 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act – also known as the Hart-Celler Act – effectively eliminated the prejudicial legislation of the 1952 Walter McCarran Act. The abolition of the quota and preference systems, and the labor certifications led to clear changes in the origin of immigrants as more and more immigrants from non-European countries – like Asia, South America, and the Caribbean – gained entry (Keely 1971).

confirmed when one of the missing – a naturalized U.S. citizen and graduate of one of the local high schools – died in a suicide bombing in northern Somalia (Gartenstein-Ross 2008). In more recent news, in Portland Oregon, a Somali-born teenager plotted a bombing of a Christmas tree lighting ceremony in the attempt to create a “spectacular show” of terrorism (New York Post 2010). Even though the attempt was unsuccessful, it reinforced negative stereotypes of Somali immigrants thus polarizing the view of the inhabitants of the communities in which they are resettled.

Somali Pirates

Another issue that concerns Americans is the prevalence of piracy occurring off the shores of Somalia. According to Elliot Anderson (2010), the international community is polarized by the clash between those persons trying to survive by fulfilling their basic needs and those who pursue self-serving ends through almost any means necessary. This polarization is in regards to the act of piracy, and piracy “is the fastest growing industry in Somalia and is projected to have replaced agriculture and fishing as the country’s largest generator of revenue” (p.323). In 1994, the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea created zones in which coastal countries have exclusive rights to the natural resources within their zone. For the Somali, this was a blessing considering their coastal waters were rich with tuna. However, after the collapse of the Somali government, foreign fishing ships moved in and depleted the reserve of fish in Somali waters. Some assert that, as a result of these actions, Somali fishermen were forced to take matters into their own hands by arming themselves and confronting the “illegal commercial fleets, demanding they pay taxes, and attempting to drive the vessels from their territory” (p.327). In 2010, fifty-three ships were hijacked worldwide with forty-nine of them occurring

off the coast of Somalia – the Somali pirates took a record 1,181 hostages receiving millions in ransom (BBC News 2011). According to Anderson, the stock depletion of Somali water by foreign fishermen forced the Somalis to adapt to the economic crisis by utilizing other means to either drive out the competition or capitalize on their participation. While this sounds like an act of survival, incidents as of late typify acts that polarize the international community. At the beginning of 2011, the Somali pirates captured and killed four elderly Americans as they sailed across the world in their yacht (MSNBC 2011). The act of killing the elderly couple is just one of many instances where innocent persons became prey to those in Somalia who pursue self-serving ends by any means possible. To many, these acts serve as additional reasons to prevent the admission of the Somali population. When the incidents of piracy and the proclamation of terrorist are combined with the knowledge that some of the Somalis have been resettled in this country under fraudulent reasons, entrance under humanitarian concerns can quickly change to restriction based on security concerns.

Chapter Summary

Somalia is a clan-based society that has been deeply entrenched in fighting between clans and clan factions since the early 1990s. Some look at the occupation of Somalia by three colonial powers as the root of the current problems that plague the country today. However, there are others that point to issues that were endemic to the society prior to colonization that are just as prevalent today. It is these issues that continuously fuel the on-going conflict. Fighting between (and within) clans were a part of life prior to the occupation – but not immediately after the occupation. At one point in time, after independence, the country came close to being truly united as a nation as pan-Somalism took hold. Somalia experienced a feeling of unity that even

surpassed the unity created by the anti-colonial *jihad* led by Sayyid Muhamed Abdallah Hassan – referred to as the “Mad Mullah” by the British – at the beginning of the 1900s. The Dervish movement that began as a pan-clan crusade against colonial forces however, soon degenerated into intra-clan warfare (Adam 2008).

In an almost instant replay of the theme surrounding the Dervish movement, the unity garnered by the Barre regime quickly turned to strife as fellow countrymen discovered that while General Barre stood on an anti-clan platform, he secretly stacked high ranking government position with clan and relative clan members shifting the balance of power and the distribution of resources in the favor of his own. Barres actions facilitated a path that ultimately led to all out civil war between clan and clan factions that sent and continues to send tens of thousands of refugees across the world in a global diaspora. Over a dozen reconciliation conferences have been held at international behest since the 1990s with little resolve in uniting the country in what many believe to be issues of representation. That is, representation for all groups in Somalia. A solution for this issue was attempted with the adoption of the “4.5” formula, however, the existence of the “.5” meant that some would be underrepresented. Thus the fighting continues amidst the splintering of clans and shifting allegiances. In the middle of the chaos, the region has managed to produce terrorists and pirates. The flourishing of these two elements has not gone unnoticed by the international community, and their existence in Somalia has caused some to question the commitment to the resettlement of the Somali people.

CHAPTER 3: REFUGEE AND REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

Refugees

For well over a century, the United States has had a guarded gate – this gate was open to some, closed to others. The bias of admissions reflected a convergence of factors ranging from prejudice, public opinion, and political agendas to the economy and administration personalities. Thus, immigration policy has been “dominated not by the will to admit, but by the will to restrict” (Zucker and Zucker 1987, 2). Restrictionist sentiment in immigration law had its beginnings in the mid-1800s with the Page Act of 1875 which was closely followed by The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. The restrictions of the early 20th century aimed at traditional immigrants also affected the acceptance of refugees because there was no distinction between refugee and immigrants prior to World War II – even though the number of refugees worldwide had increased exponentially as a result of the 1917 Soviet Revolution. One of the predominant factors that kept refugees from even being discussed, as a topic for admission considerations, rested in the “likely to become a public charge” (LPC) provisions (Zucker and Zucker 1987). The LPC clause was conceived to restrict the immigration of those who had little in the way of capital – refugees, given their predicament, were practically guaranteed to become a public charge at one point or another during the resettlement process. Thus, refugees were not looked at as people who have lost all the elements that contribute a sense of self-worth, or as people who have lost the legal and political protection of a government (Zucker and Zucker 1987); rather, they were looked at as immigrants who would become a drain on the American economy. This view of refugees still holds today. Immigrants are seen as occupying a “precarious” position because they must demonstrate they are capable of self-support; refugees, in contrast, are entitled

to cash assistance and other benefits and services that are in many ways equal to that of citizens (Gold 1992).

Pre-1980 Refugee Legislation

Official recognition of differences between refugees and immigrants with respect to U.S. immigration law did not occur until well after the middle mark of the 20th century. In the 1930s, a variety of bills were introduced by refugee advocates in an attempt aimed at helping German refugees; however, restrictionist ideology with respect to immigrants was still the dominant ideology. The only legislation of promise at that time was the Wagner-Rogers bill which allowed for the entrance of German refugee children on a non-quota basis. About a decade later, the first significant piece of legislation pertaining to refugees was introduced – the Displaced Persons Act of 1948²¹. Despite the legislation being laced with restrictionist sentiment, it still reflected humanitarian concerns with refugees that were never present in prior legislation – the act was amended in 1950 and 1951 culminating in the admission of over four hundred thousand refugees (Zucker and Zucker 1987). The giant step forward, however, was preceded by a giant step back as the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 was passed. McCarran's argument in defending the act rested on racist notions – born out of the scientific racism which was heavily present in the early 1900s – that was used to draft the original quota acts of the 1920s.

²¹ Displaced persons (DP) was a term used to denote the survivors of the Holocaust and others who were uprooted by war, or who had been expelled or fled from their homeland with no hope for return.

Challenges to the restrictionist mentality multiplied in the early 1950s in response to an escalation in Cold War activity; first there was the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, which relaxed the restrictions set by the McCarran-Walter Act. Next there was the Refugee Fair Share law whose subsequent extensions eventually led to the incorporation of refugee admissions into immigration law. Under the law, a refugee was continuously defined as “an individual fleeing racial, religious, or political persecution from any Communist, Communist-dominated, or Middle Eastern country” (Zucker and Zucker 1987). Thus, this definition resulted in an association between refugees and communism. As a result, refugee admission was now seen as thwarting the spread of communism. The communistic element in the U.S. definition of refugee resulted in waves of Soviet Jews, Cuban, and Indochinese admissions – each with their own special program. The creation of the “Refugee Act of 1980 was intended to replace the patchwork of varying programs that had developed in response to the individual refugee crises” (Zucker and Zucker 1987, 50).

The Refugee Act of 1980

Refugees are subject to the Refugee Act of 1980, which contains policies relating to their resettlement based on government objectives of integration, expedient assimilation, and self-sufficiency. It was not since 1952 that the laws on admission and resettlement of refugees had been fundamentally reformed; with the 1980 act, Congress gave new statutory authority to the U.S. commitment to human rights and its humanitarian concern for the plight of refugees around the world (Kennedy 1981). The Refugee Act of 1980²², which incorporated into American law

²² Provisions for the Refugee Act are contained within Title IV, chapter 2 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

the international definition of a refugee, was passed by Congress to provide a uniform procedure for the admission of refugees and to authorize federal assistance for their resettlement and procurement of self-sufficiency (Bruno 2008). Uniformity was necessary because from the end of World War II up until 1980, refugee admissions were always under special legislation, or some strained interpretation of the parole authority (Zucker and Zucker 1987). The Refugee Act of 1980 accomplished six basic goals (Kennedy 1981, 143):

1. It repealed the previous law's discriminatory treatment of refugees by providing a new definition of refugee. The new definition no longer applied only to refugees "from communism" or certain areas of the Middle East; it applied to all who met the test of the United Nations Convention and Protocol on the Status of Refugees.
2. It raised the annual limitation on regular refugee admissions from 17,400 to 50,000 each fiscal year.
3. It provided for an orderly but flexible procedure to deal with emergencies if refugees of "special humanitarian concern" cannot be resettled within the regular ceiling.
4. It replaced the use of "parole authority" with new statutory language asserting Congressional control over the entire process of admitting refugees.
5. It established an explicit asylum provision in the immigration law for the first time.
6. It provided a full range of federal programs to assist in the resettlement process and created the Office of the United States Coordinator for Refugee Affairs and the Office of Refugee Resettlement to monitor, coordinate and implement refugee resettlement programs.

A refugee, thus with this new act, was defined as a "person who is outside his or her country and who is unable or unwilling to return because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion" (Bruno 2008, 1).

Refugee Resettlement

In 2006, there were over 12 million refugees in the world (Singer and Wilson 2006). For these refugees, the U.N. recognizes three durable solutions²³: voluntary repatriation to their homeland; integration into host society; or resettlement to a third country (Stein 1983). Out of the 22 resettlement countries (Figure 3.1), the United States accepts more refugees than the other resettlement countries combined (Patrick 2004). The response of host countries to this increasing population varies widely between states and governments – responses also vary over time and by refugee group (Jacobsen 1996).

United States Refugee Policy

An important goal of U.S. foreign policy, ever since the government established a firm policy for refugees, is their continued assistance and resettlement – since 1980, more than 2.5 million have been resettled in the United States (Figure 3.2). As evident in Figure 3.2, the largest count of annual refugee admissions occurred immediately after the enactment of the 1980 Refugee Act. The annual number of refugees admitted eventually decreased and have never again reached the initial levels seen in the early 1980s. The lowest count of refugee admissions occurred immediately after the terrorist attack on 9/11; since that time, the number of refugees admitted has been slowly recovering. It was not until the year 2009 that the level of refugee admissions to the United States reached the pre-9/11 attack levels.

²³ Durable solution means helping the refugees to become self-sufficient, enabling them to integrate and participate fully in the social and economic life of their new country (Stein 1983, 190)

Figure 3.1: The 22 countries actively participating in the resettlement of refugee.

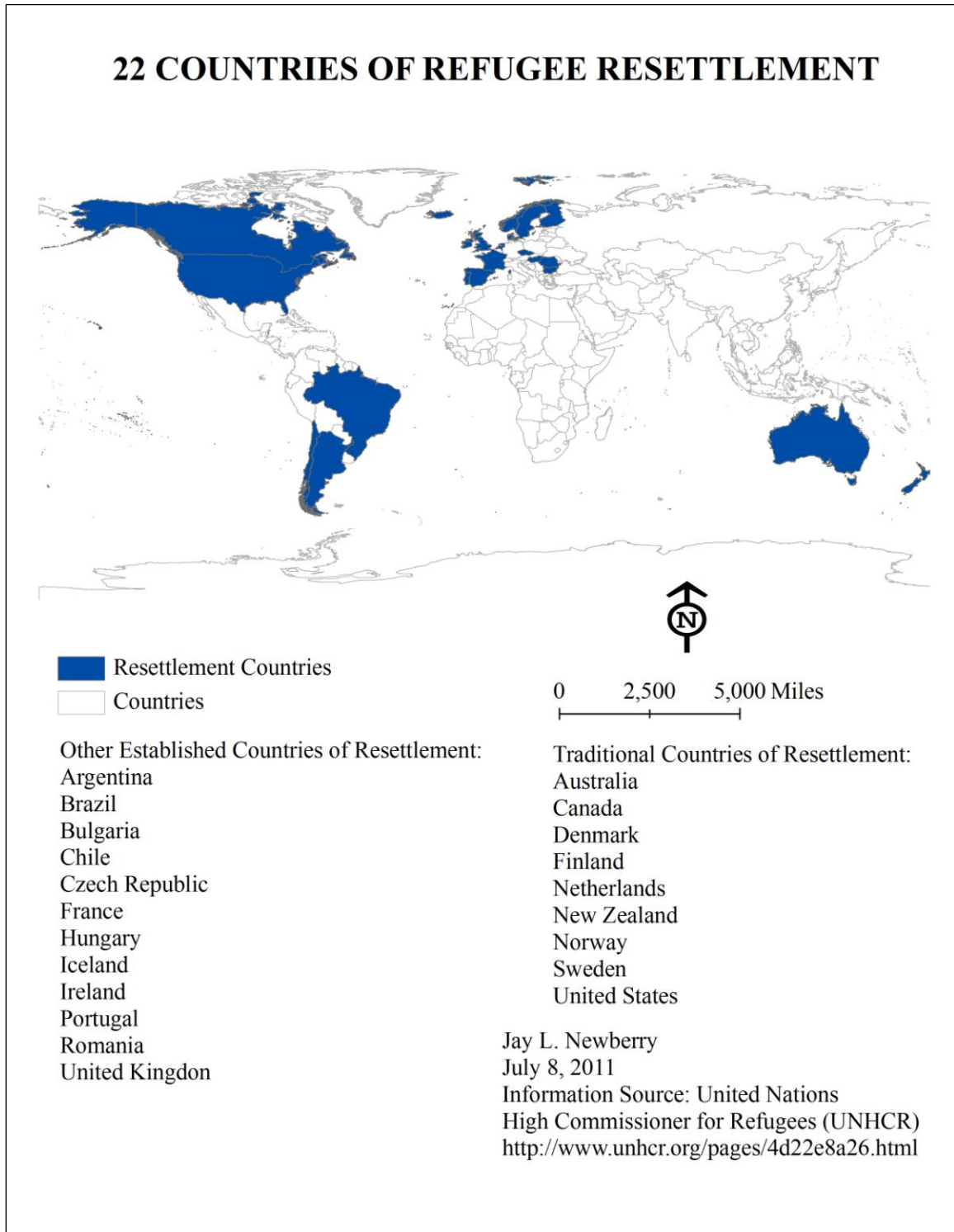
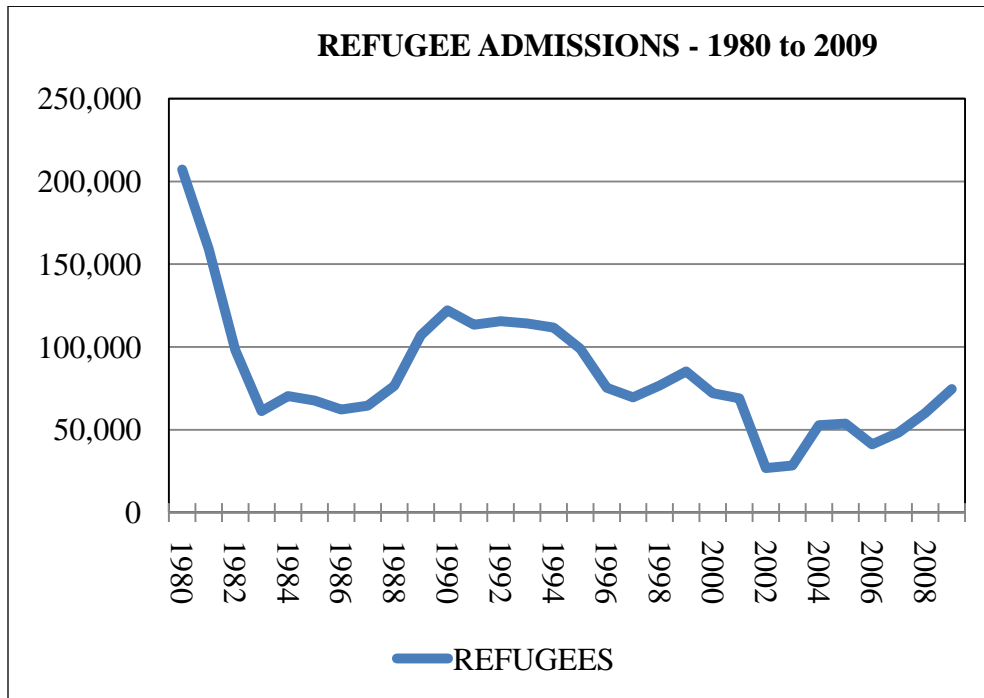


Figure 3.2: Graphic depiction of refugee admission 1980 - 2009.



Refugees are processed and admitted to the United States abroad based on a system of three priorities for admission (Bruno 2009):

Priority One: Persons for whom no durable solution exists who are referred to the U.S. refugee program by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), a U.S. embassy, or designated non-governmental organization (NGO) because of imminent risk.

Priority Two: Groups of special interest and humanitarian concern to the United States.

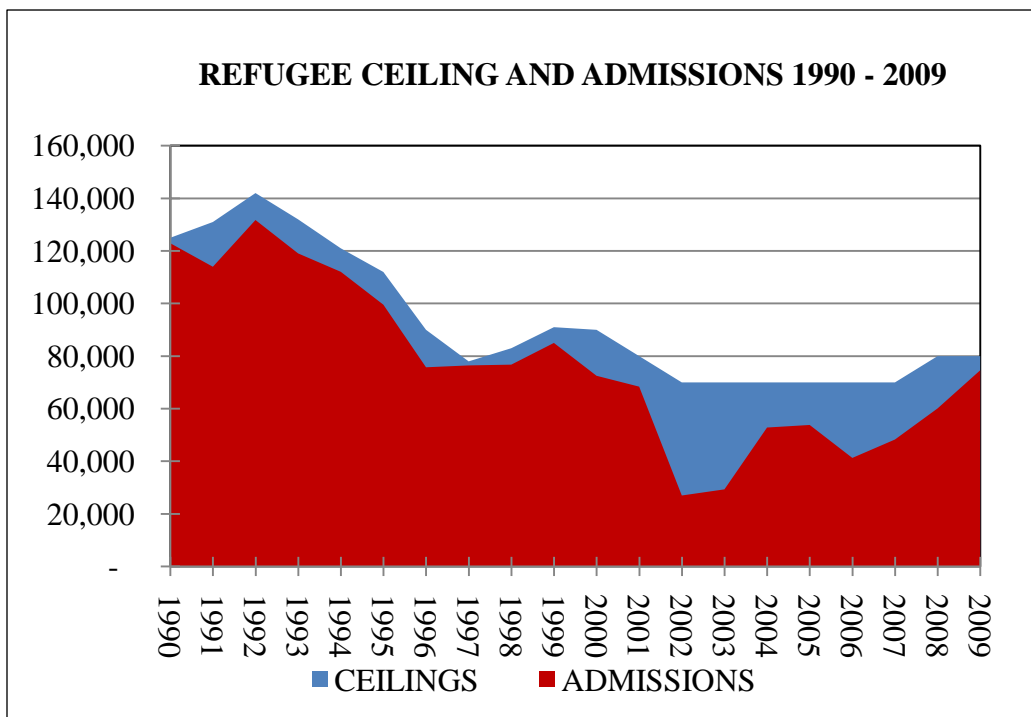
Priority Three: Persons identified for family reunification; they can be cases of spouses, unmarried children under 21, and parents of persons who were admitted to the U.S. as refugees or granted asylees.

The U.S. State Department handles the processing of refugees and the Department of Homeland Security²⁴ (DHS) makes the final determination on the eligibility of the refugees for admission;

²⁴ Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) previously handled refugee adjudications; however, the DHS abolished the INS in 2003 and assumed its functions.

after one year in refugee status in the U.S., refugees are required by law to apply to adjust their status to legal permanent resident (Bruno 2008). The number of refugees admitted to the U.S. each year is determined by the President in consultation with Congress; according to Bruno (2008), the President submits a consultation document containing a proposed refugee ceiling and regional allocations for the ensuing fiscal year (Figure 3.3).

Figure 3.3: Refugee admissions and ceilings.



The regions allocated for refugee resettlement are: Africa, East Asia, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America/Caribbean, and Near East/South Asia. Along with the regional allocations, there is also an Unallocated Reserve category in case an event arises that would require the need for additional admissions.

The refugee ceilings represent the maximum limit for refugee admissions alone and have no bearing on the number of persons granted asylum; for asylum seekers, there are no numerical limits. For refugee admission between 1990 and 2009, the average ceiling was 95,588 – the admissions during this period were averaged at 80.9 percent of the ceilings (Table 3.1). The remaining percentage of the ceiling that is not filled by admissions is held for those who could become potential admissions; this unallocated reserve is used if, and where, a need develops for refugee admissions in excess of the allocated numbers (Bruno 2008).

Refugee policy set forth by the 1980 Refugee Act dictates the dispersal of refugees – the head of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (Director) shall:

... insure that a refugee is not initially placed or resettled in an area highly impacted (as determined under regulations prescribed by the Director after consultation with such agencies and governments) by the presence of refugees or comparable populations unless the refugee has a spouse, parent, sibling, son, or daughter residing in that area. (Office of Refugee Resettlement 2010)

Even though refugees have been settled throughout the United States, ten states in particular received the vast majority of them (Table 3.2). Singer and Wilson's (2006) examination of the refugees resettled between 1983 and 2004 revealed that California received the majority – 25 percent. California was closely followed by New York which received 15 percent. The data reflects the states of initial resettlement, thus secondary migration would necessarily change those figures. Much of the secondary migration occurs within the first few years after arrival and then the refugee group becomes relatively stabilized in their spatial distribution after an initial period of adjustment (Office of Refugee Resettlement 2006).

Table 3.1: Refugee Admissions and Ceilings 1990 - 2009.

Year	Ceiling	Admits	% of Ceiling	Cumulative Admissions
2009	80,000	74,602	93.3%	1,541,453
2008	80,000	60,108	75.1%	1,466,851
2007	70,000	48,281	69.0%	1,406,743
2006	70,000	41,279	59.0%	1,358,462
2005	70,000	53,813	76.9%	1,317,183
2004	70,000	52,840	75.5%	1,263,370
2003	70,000	29,320	41.9%	1,210,530
2002	70,000	26,996	38.6%	1,181,210
2001	80,000	68,388	85.5%	1,154,214
2000	90,000	72,519	80.6%	1,085,826
1999	91,000	85,014	93.4%	1,013,307
1998	83,000	76,750	92.5%	928,293
1997	78,000	76,456	98.0%	851,543
1996	90,000	75,755	84.2%	775,087
1995	112,000	99,553	88.9%	699,332
1994	121,000	112,065	92.6%	599,779
1993	132,000	119,050	90.2%	487,714
1992	142,000	131,749	92.8%	368,664
1991	131,000	113,980	87.0%	236,915
1990	125,000	122,935	98.3%	122,935
AVG:	95,588	79,910	80.9%	

Source: ORR Report to the Congress FY 2006; CRS Report RL31269, 2009.

Table 3.2: Top ten refugee resettlement states and totals 1983 - 2004.			
Rank	State	Number of Refugees	% of All U.S. Refugees
1	California	405,806	24.50%
2	New York	235,325	14.20%
3	Texas	85,750	5.20%
4	Washington	81,857	4.90%
5	Florida	73,211	4.40%
6	Illinois	70,248	4.20%
7	Massachusetts	54,000	3.30%
8	Pennsylvania	52,095	3.10%
9	Minnesota	48,820	2.90%
10	Georgia	43,068	2.60%
Total Refugees:		1,655,406	69.30%
(Singer and Wilson 2006, 8)			

A precise timetable for the duration of the initial adjustment period does not exist because the amount of time would vary for each refugee group. Again, it has been suggested that better employment opportunities, established ethnic communities, better welfare benefits, family reunification, or more congenial climates serve as pull factors luring refugees away from their initial sites of resettlement (Office of Refugee Resettlement 2008).

Changes in Refugee Policy

In accordance with the 1980 Refugee Act, states were eligible for 100 percent reimbursement for the services they provided to the refugees for the first three years of the

refugee’s residence in the United States (Stein 1983). The three years of assistance was assumed to be the amount of time it took for refugees to become fully immersed in American society – economically and culturally. According to Zucker (1983), services provided to refugees came under fire when Ronald Reagan took office soon after the initiation of the 1980 Refugee Act. The Reagan administration executed an ambitious policy of social program reduction – federal funding for social services like job training, education, and welfare were cut or eliminated. The commitment to refugee resettlement was reduced by one-half forcing the limitation of services from 36 months to 18 months and the limitation of the reimbursement to states from 100 percent to 50 percent. The restrictive approach of the Reagan Administration towards the resettlement of refugees and the controversy surrounding the approach called attention to the problems inherent in the resettlement program (Zucker 1983). Ensuing changes to refugee policy has since cut the time limit set on services offered to refugees from 18 months to 4 – 8 months. Refugees, however, are eligible for other programs (Table 3.3) which operate on different time limits (Bruno 2009).

Table 3.3: Refugee eligibility timeline for major federal assistance programs.	
Program:	Eligibility Time Limits:
Supplemental Security Income	7 years after entry
Medicaid	7 years after entry, then state option
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	5 years after entry, then state option
Food Stamps	No time limits
(Bruno, Congressional Research Services: Refugee Admissions and Resettlement Policy 2009)	

Refugee Model and a Refugee Type

Based on the amount of refugees accepted into a host country and the country's agenda for incorporating those refugees, models can be made of the refugee resettlement process – the United States adheres to the Large Volume / Primacy on Economic Adaptation Model of refugee resettlement (Lanphier 1983). In this model, refugee resettlement is seen as an activity of sponsors from the private sector and VOLAGS, which – according to Lanphier (1983) – aspire to provide goods and services to refugees on a short-term basis in order that they may assume full engagement as productive members in the labor force in their new host country. In a contemporary sense, this task has become more daunting because of a shift in the receiving regions. Historically, the United States has received refugee groups from developed regions of the world where differences in skill and culture were nominal. Now, a growing proportion of refugees are coming from underdeveloped parts of the world or from areas of the world where statelessness (as with the Somali) prevails – transferable skills and cultural similarities are basically non-existent. These types of refugees require a greater amount of assistance because it is typically harder for them to adapt to American life due to the contrast in culture. The changes instituted during the Reagan administration compounded this situation not only by limiting the ability of resettlement agencies to do their jobs adequately, but it also placed a greater amount of pressure on the refugees themselves to quickly conform.

Table 3.4 list figures from the originating regions for refugee groups resettled in the United States between 1946 and 2000 – the vast majority of refugees are still coming from places such as Europe and Asia, but a growing number are coming from Africa.

Table 3.4: Refugees LPR by region of origin 1946 - 2000.						
Region	1946 to 1950	1951 to 1960	1961 to 1970	1971 to 1980	1981 to 1990	1991 to 2000
Europe	211,983	456,146	55,235	71,858	155,512	426,565
Asia	1,106	33,422	19,895	210,683	712,092	351,347
Africa	20	1,768	5,486	2,991	22,149	51,649
*North America	163	831	132,068	252,633	121,840	185,333
* North America includes the Caribbean and Central America						
Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security						

Despite the African region showing the least amount of refugees resettled over the five decade period from 1950 to 2000, there was a 640 percent increase in numbers applying for legal permanent residence²⁵ during the 1980s, and a 133 percent increase over that figure applying for legal permanent residence during the 1990s. The growth in African refugees, however, corresponds with a growth in concerns over the increased cost and difficulties of resettlement – particularly with third-world refugees. This concern – in combination with the endurance of the shortened amount of time for assistance – has led some observers to wonder if the commitment to refugee resettlement as a durable solution has been diminished (Stein 1983).

Voluntary Agencies (VOLAGS)

In nearly all of the countries that open their doors for refugee resettlement, the resettlement process is accomplished through partnerships between the country's government

²⁵ Refugees are eligible to apply for legal permanent residence one year after initial resettlement in the United States.

and VOLAGS. VOLAGS are national organizations and within the U.S., ten VOLAGS (five of which are faith-based) carry out most of the refugee resettlement (Table 3.5).

Table 3.5: Refugee resettlement voluntary agencies.
1. Church World Service (CWS)
2. Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC)
3. Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM)
4. Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
5. International Rescue Committee (IRC)
6. Kurdish Human Rights Watch, Inc. (KHRW)
7. US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)
8. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS)
9. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)
10. World Relief Corporation (WR)

The VOLAGS have a network of nearly four hundred affiliates across the U.S. dedicated to the reception and integration of refugees. VOLAGS constitute a key element in the resettlement process; they are contracted with – and partially funded by – the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), and are responsible for providing reception and placement services for refugees upon their arrival in the U.S. (California Department of Social Services 2008). While still overseas, applicants considered for resettlement are interviewed and screened by the U.S. State Department and the Department of Homeland Security. Once approved for admission to the United States, the refugees are allocated among the 10 national VOLAGS. Each year, these VOLAGS propose the resettlement communities and the number of refugees the communities will receive – the proposals are subject to approval by the U.S. State Department. The local affiliates of the national VOLAGS that operate throughout the country receive the refugee referrals from their parent agency and coordinate their resettlement within the local communities.

The VOLAG-Government Partnership

The VOLAG partnership with the federal government initially started with the 1946 Corporate Affidavit Program. According to Zucker (1983), under this program, the VOLAGS guaranteed to provide sole financial support to refugees from self-generated resources to prevent them from becoming public charges. Since most of the displaced persons had no means of financial support, the affidavit effectively enabled the entrance of thousands of refugees into this country who otherwise would have never had the chance. The financial relationship between the federal government and the VOLAGS changed after World War II when the government first began extending loans to the agencies which were initially for refugee transportation costs (Wright 1981).

Nearly two decades after the initial establishment of the un-funded partnership, the nature of the relationship changed as the government began issuing more loans in response to the increasing post-World War II refugee flow. The amounts of the loans, over time, were incremental and differential for the various refugee groups:

Small per capita resettlement grants were made for the first time with the Cuban refugee movement through the 1960s. The grants reached \$300 per capita; a quantum jump, for the small Ugandan Asian program in the early 1970s, and \$500 per capita in the initial Indochinese program. Grants for the resettlement of Indochinese refugees dropped to \$350 and rose again in stages to the current \$500 per capita. Until 1977, no grants were extended for the resettlement of the regular flow of non-Southeast Asian, non-Cuban refugees. However, in 1976, to provide more equal treatment for refugee groups and to help the VOLAGS with rising numbers and costs, the State Department began granting the VOLAGS \$250 per capita for at least some part of the annual refugee admissions and later raised that to \$350. (Wright 1981, 161)

Thus refugee sponsorship was initially handled by private parties but the 1980 Refugee Act solidified the promise of government funding and from that period till the present, public funds have dominated all aspects of refugee resettlement (Barnett 1999).

Problems in Refugee Resettlement

For the 2011 fiscal year, the recommended per capita funding for VOLAG reception and placement of refugees was \$1800. According to Zucker (1983), there were severe deficiencies in the resettlement program because VOLAGs operate under loose financial requirements and a loose definition of core services. Special concern was directed at how funding was being used and how the figures for funding were derived for the resettlement of refugees. According to resettlement watch dog groups, cost-analysis reports from VOLAGs are troublesome if those reports are inaccurate. The most recent proposal for increased government funding has raised questions as to the exact percentage VOLAGs contribute to the resettlement process. According to Coen (2010), agencies claim that funding for the resettlement costs are divided up as such among the contributing entities: 39 percent government funds, 30 percent private party funds, and 31 percent VOLAG funds. Issues of validity of the proportion of funding arise when the VOLAGs cannot account for the 31 percent of the costs for refugee resettlement. In addition, more questions surface concerning the contribution of the private entities. Although those in the private sector do indeed contribute a small percentage, audits would appear to put that contribution around 8 percent rather than the 30 percent as claimed by VOLAG reports (Coen 2010). This translates into the government assuming an increased financial role in the reception and placement of refugees.

When the increased federal government funding of refugees per capita and the large number of refugees the United States admits are combined – the role of the VOLAG becomes more business oriented. In such an environment it is easy to equate more refugees with more money and in the United States – most refugees are assigned to one of ten VOLAGs adding to that agency’s headcount and thus their federal cash allotment (Barnett 1999). This scenario becomes a problem when one considers the primary origin of contemporary refugees. As stated earlier, more and more refugees are coming from developing countries – this poses a challenge to the VOLAG workers because practices that worked with European refugees are inappropriate for use with the newest arrivals (Stein 1983). Prior refugees came from European countries in which the culture was fairly similar to the culture of this country thus the constraints on acculturation were limited. Because the culture of most of the contemporary refugees vary drastically from that of this country, more time and effort is needed in providing services making their resettlement very difficult and very expensive (Stein 1983). With a decrease in the time allotted for refugee support and an increase in the number of refugees being admitted who require a longer period of support, Stein’s supposition of decreased commitment to refugee resettlement becomes more of a reality.

The Welfare System

When considering the changes that have occurred to refugee policy, one primary question that arises is – how are the VOLAGS able to do more with less when preparing refugees to become self-sufficient in the quickest amount of time possible? According to Wright (1981), when the influx of refugees tax the resettlement system, VOLAGS resort to temporarily placing them on public assistance until they can cope with the newcomers. Under extreme

circumstances, the “welfare programs are necessary and beneficial if properly used,” (p.163) – but the existence of such a safety net can lead to abuse by the VOLAGS. Don Barnett (1999) believes this is exactly what happened as he asserts that government money corrupted the refugee resettlement process. In a documentation of one of the largest ORR conferences in history, Barnett described the event as a gathering in which voluntary agency workers learned “how to qualify for refugee-specific grant money” in addition to learning how to “tap into much broader federal initiatives” (Barnett 1999). The conclusion drawn from observing the conference sessions led Barnett to believe that their main purpose was for the dissemination of information on how to get refugees into the welfare system as quickly as possible.

The generous welfare system in the United States can also lead to welfare abuse on behalf of the refugees as they bypass the self-sufficiency goal, and advance straight to welfare dependency. According to Barnett (1999), a 1996 federal study of refugees that had arrived five years prior found that 46 percent were receiving cash assistance, 48 percent were receiving food stamps, and 24 percent were in – or waiting for – public housing. Barnett found this astonishing given that anywhere from one-third to four-fifths were admitted as family reunification cases – the family, as sponsors, were supposed to be self-sufficient before accepting responsibility for the new admits. Once the government became involved with funding the resettlement of refugees the process became compromised. The introduction of federal money removed the impetus for refugees to integrate into American society – with the immediate availability of cash, food, housing and healthcare, there is no need (and probably no desire) or incentive to do so (Barnett 1999).

One of the direct distinctions between a refugee's and an immigrant's adaptation to life in the United States involves the relationship with the welfare system. There is still scholarly debate as to whether resettlement policies encourage self-sufficiency or welfare dependency – the availability of public assistance and social services provide refugees with an alternative to entering mainstream labor markets (Hein 1993). Since the start of refugee admissions, millions have come to the United States and most have integrated themselves into the American economy and society at different speeds. At the same time, billions in government funding was invested in programs geared towards the speedy integration of refugees into the economy, yet, there is still no evidence to suggest that the money – or the manner in which it was spent – made any difference to the rate of refugee employment (Fass 1985).

Refugees and the Welfare Magnet States

The preceding passages establishing the association between refugees and the welfare system was incorporated because the availability of welfare (or lack of it) affects the speed in which refugees adapt to and integrate in American society (Barnett 1999). Secondly, variables associated with welfare serve as powerful pull factors in interstate migration – a concept posited by the welfare magnet hypothesis. The magnet hypothesis has many aspects, but the major proposition of concern in this research is the notion that welfare benefits affect the residential location choices of immigrants – the “welfare state creates a magnet that influences the migration decisions of persons in the source countries potentially changing the composition and geographic location of the immigrant population in the United States in ways that may not be desirable” (Borjas 2003, 290). While the hypothesis was originally applied to international migrants, it later became relevant to interstate migrants of this country. The welfare magnet refers to states

or locales whose policies attract poor migrants and/or facilitates the retention of a high percentage of its own poor (Allard and Danziger 2000).

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act

The question of welfare usage among noncitizens – especially in light of the fact that they have a higher rate of usage than citizens as established by Borjas (2003) – sparked the immigrant related provisions of the 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA). The PRWORA created a new set of guidelines for establishing the eligibility of immigrants to receive public assistance – it made it harder for them, as noncitizens, to be approved for welfare programs. While the legislation did make an impact on the behalf of welfare reform, the impact was limited because of behavioral changes on behalf of the states and the immigrants themselves. The states with large immigrant populations reacted to the PRWORA by offering state level benefits to immigrants negatively affected by the welfare reform, and immigrants themselves also reacted independently by becoming naturalized in order to regain access to public assistance (Borjas 2003). Not all states reacted by extending state benefits, fifteen²⁶ actually instituted proactive measures to curb welfare induced migration. According to Allard and Danziger (2000), proactive states passed welfare residency requirements that set, for those migrants who have been in the state for less than twelve months, the level of benefits equal to that of their last state of residency. These restrictions, however, were found to be unconstitutional infringements on the right to travel according to the 1969 case *Shapiro v. Thompson*, a precedent which was upheld on May 17, 1999, by the Supreme Court in *Saenz v.*

²⁶ The fifteen states included: California, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Roe (Allard and Danziger 2000, 351). While the PRWORA might not have seriously affected refugee usage of welfare, the residency requirements established by the fifteen states mentioned above might have had an impact on the secondary migration decisions of refugees had it not been deemed unconstitutional. The *Saenz v. Roe*²⁷ decision effectively held that states cannot discriminate against citizens based on their length of in-state residency (Davis 1999).

Chapter Summary

The purpose of this chapter was to lay the foundation for the type of institutional environment the Somalis face upon arrival in America as refugees. Again, this is not to say all Somalis in America are refugees, however, the majority of their population admitted to the U.S. entered under refugee status. As it has been shown, the refugee program was initially privately funded, however, the federal government soon became involved with the partial funding of refugee resettlement – this joint partnership was solidified with the 1980 Refugee Act. The initial goal of the VOLAGs was to bring the refugees to self-sufficiency – economically and socially – as soon as possible; however, this goal has been altered to some degree. Since the inception of the act, the time allotted for refugee support has been reduced, the number of refugees requiring more time and support in acculturating to this society has increased, and the financial backing of resettlement agencies have been reworked in such a manner as to create a system where more money is awarded for resettling more refugees thus removing the humanitarian drive and replacing it with one that is financial. Thus the contemporary refugees –

²⁷ Residency laws were challenged as a violation of the “principle of free interstate migration” (right to travel) – a principle that holds that “United States citizens be free to choose their state of residence and that state citizens be treated equally regardless of length of residency” (Davis 1999, 97).

especially those who are coming from cultures vastly different from this host country – more often than not, are rushed through a system that no longer promotes self-sufficiency, but rather welfare dependency. The changes in the resettlement process since its inception and the existence of the welfare state all serve to impact the Somali because both may affect the decision of the Somali to embark on secondary migrations. The fast track orientation and support service term contemporary refugees, like the Somali, are subjected to pushes them through the resettlement process and into the mainstream public with inadequate preparation. This lack of preparation serves to strengthen the impetus for secondary migrations to established ethnic communities for not only social and psychological support, but also for safety and security. The existence of the welfare state – if adequate – can serve to keep them in the enclaves and bolster the ethnic clustering.

Horst (2006) characterizes the Somali heritage as being governed by a mentality composed of three elements: a mentality looking for greener pastures; a strong social network supported by obligations to ensure survival; and the sense of strategic dispersal of family members and activities as a matter of risk reduction. These elements of the Somali culture suggest a highly mobile population who would search out the best environment for settlement. Thus, whether they are in the arid lands of Somalia, or in the temperate regions of the U.S., historical evidence from Somali ethnic origins infers that they will seek out locales best suited for survival. The existence of established ethnic enclaves, or better welfare benefits and resources provided by various states would definitely factor into the redistribution of Somalis across the American landscape in their search for greener pastures – especially if the states of

initial resettlement contained barriers or constraints that interfered with their idealized residential setting.

CHAPTER 4: REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

According to Hein (2006), evidence that the history, culture, and politics of an immigrant group shapes the way they adapt to America – especially with respect to race and ethnic relations – continues to mount. Despite this mounting evidence, there has been little change to the prevailing explanations for immigrant adaptation which includes assimilation, ethnic competition, and mode of incorporation theories. Hein believes the reason why the effects of an immigrants homeland experience has not stimulated alterations to these theories is because the change would emphasize that there are cultural differences between the groups. While this acknowledgment of cultural differences may seem benign, Hein asserts that it is just the opposite because of the two trends that created a “theoretical dilemma” (p.6). One involved the War on Poverty from the sixties and the neoconservative policy paradigm of the eighties which “made cultural explanations for racial and ethnic inequality a social-science taboo” (p.6). The second involved the postmodernist reinterpretation of culture during the eighties and nineties which “banished one of its essential meanings that is particularly appropriate for immigrants: values and norms internalized through socialization” (p.6). Hein asserts that, because of those two trends, theories pertaining to immigrants continue to avoid placing emphasis on the immigrant’s culture or other aspects of their pre-migration experience. As a response, Hein developed his ethnic-origins theory based on cultural aspects such as kinship norms, politics, and religious values:

Owing to global diversity in history, politics, and culture, each group of emigrants takes with it a unique world view of what it means to be a member of society. These homegrown conceptions of societal membership influence how immigrants interpret and respond to new identities and inequalities in a host society. The concept of ethnic origins helps us appreciate that immigrants add more than demographic breadth to diversity in the United States. Immigrants also change the meaning of diversity because they have distinctive ethnic origins. (Hein 2006, 7)

Breakthroughs in the acknowledgement of the immigrant's ethnic origins have been evident as of late. More and more studies are now looking at the immigrant's experience and conceptualization of race and ethnicity prior to migration to examine how they adapt to these concepts post-migration. According to Thai (2008), variations in the experiences immigrants had in their country of origin affects their access to institutional power and mobilization. These are factors that help to explain why immigrant groups develop competing understandings of personal and institutional discrimination (p.613). The focus on race and ethnic adaptation is evident in Somali studies as the bulk of the literature is geared towards examining how this group deals with the black-white racial dichotomy that is still prevalent throughout American society.

Studies of Somali Adaption

Darboe (2003) conducted an analysis of the Somali in Minnesota to understand the immigration and assimilation process. After drawing on the historic experiences of African Americans, Darboe found that the Somali face several challenges to assimilation in Minnesota to include cultural differences, racism, economic inequalities, and language barriers (p.458). In Minnesota, these challenges were all bound by the role of race – a concept that the Somali (and many other African immigrants) have trouble grasping because groups are identified and labeled based on skin color rather than national origin. Darboe examined three major ideologies of assimilation (Anglo-conformity theory, the melting pot theory, and theories of cultural pluralism) placing most of the focus on the ideology of cultural pluralism and its implications that “various racial or ethnic groups be allowed to freely express their own culture without suffering prejudice or discrimination” (p.467). Darboe asserted that the on-going debate about new immigrants –

like the Somali – and the ethnic diversity they create highlights the conflict between the Anglo-conformity and cultural pluralism ideologies. The end belief is that the appeal of cultural pluralism, and the racial and ethnic diversity it spawned, has created fear on behalf of the dominant white population who believe that immigrant pluralism might transition into separatism; this in turn stimulates even more racism and nativism (p.470). Darboe concludes by stating that the strategies the Somali have employed as a counter to racism includes building coalitions with other ethnic groups not only as a show of solidarity, but also as a way to stave off the separatist label.

Kusow (2006) also analyzed the racial issue in his study of the Somalis in North America. He used qualitative methods to examine the Somalis understanding of race and blackness, as defined in North America, to identify how color-based racial categories are “contested and redefined with a different social classification system that does not acknowledge blackness as a meaningful category for social stratification” (p.534). In Somalia, skin color was not the basis for social stratification like in the United States – social stratification, as well as social identities, in Somalia was primarily determined through clannism (p.541). So the underlying focus was on how immigrants from societies that do not employ color-based racial categories negotiate identities in a society that does. Kusow found that Somalis maintain social boundaries that not only provide barriers “with which to shield themselves from discrimination, but also gives them a necessary cultural framework from which to reverse-stigmatize members of their host society” (p.546). These social barriers would be consistent with a research report on survey answers from the Somalis living in Minneapolis. According to the report, a minimum of 74 percent indicated that they identify more with the Somali culture than the American culture.

In addition, only 15 percent of the Somalis indicated that they wanted to become more a part of the American culture (Wilder Research Center 2000). This, in effect, means the overwhelming majority of Somali do not want to become a part of the American culture which feeds into what Darboe (2003) expressed about the fear that cultural pluralism may transform into separatism. The maintenance of distance from American culture could be a product of the myth of return which highlights the immigrant's belief and desire for an imminent return to their homeland. Even though the return rarely occurs, the myth still contributes to the "group's need to defy" becoming incorporated into the host society via acts of self exclusion (Cohen and Gold 1997). The distancing can also be a protective measure – some groups may restrict interaction to prevent the "dilution" of their customs through exposure to other cultures or other groups (Grady 2003).

Again, the preceding studies fit in with the overall trend in Somali studies by focusing on issues regarding how cultural, economic, social, and racial context inform Somali identity formations. These are important issues; however, this research is concerned with the geographic aspects of the Somali in the United States.

Immigrant Geographic Distributions

Studies of Locational Determinants

There have been a number of studies that have assessed the locational determinants of the foreign-born population. It is this admission that fueled Newbold's (2002) research as he noted large differences in the literature whereby studies of immigration and settlement overlooked the status of the immigrants thus referring to the foreign-born in aggregate. Newbold believed the

oversight was due to the differences in the philosophic traditions of the researchers investigating the migration phenomenon:

Although the existing literature has explored the foreign-born population with respect to national origin and arrival cohort, much less empirical work addresses differences by admission category. In part, this is due to differential traditions within the research literature. Qualitative techniques or surveys are more disposed to the analysis of a fragmented refugee population and are typically the only vehicle through which to examine this population. Quantitative techniques have tended to draw upon human capital theory, focusing upon the immigrant population. More importantly, the lack of available and comparative work is typically due to a deficiency of information relating to admission category in publicly released data files. (Newbold 2002, 371)

Making the distinction between the categories in which the foreign-born are admitted is important for geographic research because the motivation for immigrating and the differences in human capital may eventually exert an influence on the settlement patterns and adjustment behaviors of the foreign-born within their host society (Newbold 2002). Again, a big part of the problem in making comparisons is the lack of information with regards to the admission categories. To overcome this handicap and to make the distinction, Newbold employed an estimation method that assumed all persons from a particular point of origin were either immigrants or refugees. This information was then used to extract time series data from the 1990 PUMS relating to those populations. Newbold applied basic statistical techniques to the temporal data in order to identify and document the similarities and differences in the geographic distribution and personal attributes between the immigrant and refugee groups he identified in the PUMS.

Newbold's results revealed that the geographic distribution of the foreign-born population reflected a combined effect of gateway city roles and government resettlement policy. The gateway city role refers to the notion that some cities have been and continue to be a magnet

for immigrants attracting family preferences, immediate relatives, employment, and refugee arrivals; this is owing to the historical role gateway cities played within the immigration system supporting large immigrant communities (Newbold 2002). The government resettlement policy refers to the refugee resettlement policy of dispersion. In Newbold's analysis, the policy was found to be effective because the results indicated that the initial destination of refugee populations was more dispersed geographically than that of the immigrants. This, however, changed over time because Newbold's results also indicated that their distribution eventually became increasingly concentrated in gateway states and metropolitan areas despite the government policy of dispersion.

One of the earlier studies concerning the locational determinants for immigrant settlement was conducted by Ann Bartel (1989). Utilizing Public Use Microdata (PUMS) data from the 1980 Census of Population and data calculated from Public Assistance Statistics, Bartel applied a multinomial logit regression to six socioeconomic predictor variables using select immigrant groups as the dependent variable. She found that the percentage of co-ethnics already residing in the area had the strongest effect on location choice for immigrants at the SMSA level. She also found that the more educated individuals within each ethnic group had the highest mobility rate. The issue with Bartel's study, as noted by Newbold (2002), was that the foreign-born were studied in aggregate, thus there was no distinction between immigrants and refugees.

F.H. Buckley (1996) conducted a similar analysis, but at the state level, using ordinary least squares regression on legal permanent residence data provided by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and 1985 through 1994 data from the Statistical Abstract of the United

States. Buckley's goal was to identify factors attracting immigrants to their immigration state. The significance of this study was that Buckley separated the immigrant into 4 categories to include a refugee and asylees category. Buckley's findings revealed that his welfare variable – Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) – had its strongest positive and only significant reading with the refugee category indicating that this group is more prone to live in states with more generous welfare benefits. Buckley cautioned about the findings because of issues with multicollinearity – one of his predictors was “correlated with other immigration predictors” (p.88). According to Larose (2006), multicollinearity leads to solution space instability whereby a set of predictors can result in a regression that is significant overall, even when none of the individual variables are significant. The use of many predictor variables can complicate the interpretation of the analysis and violates the principle of parsimony (Larose 2006).

Zavodny (1999) also studied, at the state level, the determinants of immigrant locational choices for the years 1989 through 1994 using INS and ORR data. The statistical tool for this study was the linear regression using five predictor variables against six categories of immigrants. With respect to refugees, the author's findings revealed that the welfare and the total population variables had the strongest positive effect and unemployment had the strongest negative effect on their location. This confirms Buckley's (1996) findings of positive association with welfare benefits and negative association with unemployment for refugees. Foreign-born population share had a positive effect, but its strength was nominal compared to welfare and total population. In this analysis, along with Buckley (1996) and Bartel's (1989), prior presence of foreign-born appears to be the strongest predictor of the traditional immigrant's location choice,

but it has no real bearing on the location of refugees. The results of these analyses set immigrants and refugees apart in their locational choice; however, the results could simply be a matter of placement for the refugees – while traditional immigrants choose their place of settlement, refugees have little choice initially. As mentioned earlier, refugees are placed according to a set of established criteria aimed at facilitating self-sufficiency like low unemployment and above average welfare benefits. Thus, the application of welfare magnet theories may or may not be applicable to refugees – the application depends on the act of secondary and subsequent migrations.

One of the more comprehensive studies of locational determinants was conducted by Gurak and Kritz (2000). In an attempt to determine the sources of differentiation between immigrant/immigrant and immigrant/native-born interstate migration, the authors not only divided up the immigrant category into twenty-four country of origin groups, they also divided the variables up into three sets of factors. The variable sets included factors pertaining to human capital, social capital, and economic conditions of the state of residence. The results from the logistic regression models revealed that human capital factors were the most important sources of differentiation in immigrant and native-born internal migration. The study also found that, while human capital variables provided the greatest explanation for differences in internal migration, variables associated with the social capital of the groups and the economic conditions of the state also strongly influenced interstate migration (Gurak and Kritz 2000).

Studies Specific to Refugees

While the research mentioned above sometimes involved refugees, the following research dealt specifically with refugees. Desbarats (1985) was among the first of the researchers to question the futility of government policies dictating the dispersion of refugees – an issue that was also brought up by the study done later by Newbold (2002). The questioning came in response to the increased flow of Southeast Asian refugees who eventually became highly concentrated in only a few of the Western states. The main objective of Desbarats's (1985) research was to analyze the economic, social, and environmental factors that influenced the evolution of the Southeast Asian distribution over time. In order to do this, she employed a backwards stepwise regression. In line with the discussion this dissertation incorporated about welfare magnets, Desbarats assumed that the refugee's locational choices would be a reflection of the availability and level of welfare assistance. It was also assumed that socio-cultural factors would be significant in explaining the distribution of the Southeast Asians. Desbarats did not mention ethnic-origins specifically in her study, but she did rely on some of its propositions to make assumptions about the expected behavior of her target group based on their cultural heritage. The assumptions referred to the cohesive nature of refugees "originating from cultures marked by tightly knit families whose members are bound by a traditional web of mutual obligations and aid" (p.530).

Desbarats's results indicated that the initial placement pattern of refugees showed the least amount of concentration, but when the refugees were able to assert their own self determination through secondary migration, their patterns became more concentrated in specific locations. These locations were found to offer social, climatic, and economic advantages for the

refugees (p.535). This move toward a more concentrated residential pattern is what Newbold (2002) confirmed with his study. According to Desbarats (1985), mild climate states tended to attract secondary migrants while states with generous assistance programs tended to attract both primary and secondary migrants. Her study contributed enormously to the geographic study of refugee distributions in the United States by confirming that the initial stages of ethnic clustering are crucial in “polarizing” subsequent distribution patterns (p.536). Secondly, her study also contributed by illustrating the difficulty of slowing the growth of ethnic clusters “once they have reached a critical mass” (p.536). The final contribution came in the form of advice suggesting that government policies of refugee dispersion might be more effective if the needs of the refugees were given more consideration with respect to their spatial placement (Desbarats 1985).

Another such study dealing specifically with refugees was conducted by Simich (2003). Simich examined the role of Canadian resettlement bureaucracy in “determining family connections and shaping the way refugees negotiate social and spatial boundaries during resettlement” (p.576). The policy example given pertained to the political policy that dictates the dispersal of refugees across Canada – similar to the United States policy. Simich stressed that such a policy imposed constraints on the refugee’s “ability to reconstitute the supportive social relationships they need for successful settlement. In response to neglect of these needs, refugees engage in repeated migration” (p.576). Simply put, secondary migration is the result of the refugee’s application of self-determination as they attempt to locate and reconstitute social networks as a source of support in spite of “official destination planning” (p.577). Simich confirmed this notion when her semi-structured interviews and interpretive analysis revealed that secondary migrations to Ontario took place “not only for jobs, but more significantly, for social

support – by reconnecting with friends and family within the critical first year of settlement” (p.587). Simich also found that the decision of the refugees to migrate was made as members of an “extended social network” – not as individuals (p.582). Simich ultimately stressed that support from the government is a crucial component in the assistance received by the refugees, but this support alone cannot meet all of the refugee’s needs.

Refugees tend to “maximize their opportunities for social support” in a manner that is specific to their needs with the secondary migration (Simich 2003, 582). Reconstitution of the family and support network assures an “emotional and material stability” that will last throughout the resettlement process and longer (p.581). If secondary migration is what it takes for refugees to become stable and self-sufficient in their resettlement, then a valid question would be – why would officials responsible for resettling the refugees not resettle them in a manner that is more accommodating to the refugee’s needs in the first place? Simich found that the answer to this involves fault in both parties – the refugee’s themselves and the officials responsible for resettlement. According to Simich, the majority of the secondary migrant in her study “had clearly expressed destination requests to join family and friends already in Canada,” but these requests were not given serious consideration in the final destining decision by resettlement officials (p.583). In this instance, the fault lies with resettlement officials for ignoring the request in the attempt to serve political interests by adhering to political policies of refugee dispersion. With respect to the refugees, the fault is found when they conceal information during the application process. According to Simich, Canada has an official family reunification policy, but many refugees are cautious about revealing family connections – some believe that “revealing family support could detract from government financial support or mean

that they will not be accepted as refugees at all” (p.583). This deception usually results in the refugee being resettled in a location geographically distant from their social support network. This displacement of the refugee from his or her support network thus feeds the secondary migration phenomena.

Research conducted by Hardwick and Meacham (2005) also dealt specifically with refugees. According to Hardwick and Meacham, in the past decade geographic studies of refugee issues have emerged as a salient topic of inquiry; they made a contribution by analyzing the migration experiences and settlement patterns of refugees in the Pacific Northwest. More and more of the most recent refugee arrivals have settled into smaller towns and cities located in unexpected places that were long dominated by native-born European populations creating tension (Hardwick and Meacham 2005). Hardwick and Meacham noted in their analysis of Portland, Oregon that the large influx of refugees was one of the primary reasons for the increased diversity seen in that area. The authors believe that an understanding of refugee settlement patterns is vital because local tensions and ensuing political decisions – which could affect the lives of not only the foreign-born, but also the native-born populations – are sometimes a response to the changing residential concentration of the refugees. With this in mind, Hardwick and Meacham asserted that a thorough understanding of the refugee’s residential pattern requires the understanding of their migration paths, arrival times, cultural and economic niches, racialization, and the potential subordination by the majority residents (p.540).

Hardwick and Meacham used a multi-method approach integrating both qualitative and quantitative methods to study the largest refugee groups in Portland – this included refugees

from Vietnam and the former USSR. A cartographic analysis of the settlement patterns was accomplished using census data, refugee resettlement file data, and data from the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The spatial analysis was fortified by qualitative information collected through interviews, focus groups, and participant observation – the goal was to help explain the settlement decision process. Hardwick and Meacham found that a set of “overlapping and complimentary political, social, and economic networks influence refugee residential patterns” (p.554). In addition, they also found that, regardless of the refugee’s history, the groups are initially influenced by the network of support provided by the VOLAGS. After this initial influence, the various refugee groups were then influenced by different aspects stemming from their ethnic origins.

Studies Specific to the Somali

There have been studies of the Somali population as evident from the first couple of paragraphs in this chapter, but not many in the geographical context in which this research needs. Danso (2001) recognized the limited geographical literature and the predicament motivated his analysis of Somali refugees in Canada in order to assess their resettlement experiences and needs. Based on quantitative and qualitative methods, his results suggested that the Somalis encountered numerous difficulties during the initial stages of resettlement and that information about resettlement assistance came primarily from their “personal network of friends, family, and compatriots” (p.3). Danso used a multiple sampling strategy to extract information from the Somali community. To construct a sample frame, listed subscribers to the Bell Canada telephone directory who had “distinctively ‘Ethiopian’ or ‘Somali’ last names were randomly picked” (p.5). In addition, the snowball sampling method was used to compile subjects for the study.

Three sets of survey instruments were used to collect data for this study – one was a questionnaire, and the other two were semi-structured interviews. The questionnaires contained open-ended questions that were structured to extract information on pre-migration hopes and expectations, settlement difficulties, ethnic community organization, linguistic adaptation, labor market experiences, and residential geographies (p.5). Danso’s study revealed the initial difficulties faced by Somalis to be: affordable housing; finding a job; job insecurity; general racism; language barriers; insufficient income; and family reunion. These difficulties were found to be contributors to the high rate of poverty found among the Somalis in Canada.

Danso also made a critical distinction within the Somali population in his study – those that received government sponsorship, and those that did not. The Somalis that received government sponsorship were more informed of resettlement assistance than those who received other forms of sponsorship. Danso concluded that, constrained access to resettlement assistance forces Somali immigrants “to look ‘inward’ and rely heavily on ethnic networks for information on employment, housing, education, and language training programs” making social networks invaluable to resettlement (p.12).

Gaps in the Literature

The problem with the studies of the Somali is that they are not locational studies. Studies of the Somali typically focus on immigration, assimilation, or racial identity as seen with Darboe (2003) and Kusow’s (2006) research. Danso (2001) initiates a geographical aspect in his research by focusing on issues at the Somali resettlement locations and asserting the value of social networks at those locations. None of these, however, address matters concerning the

locational or migration determinants of the Somali population. There is a gap in the literature pertaining to the spatial aspects of the Somali – literature that answers not only where they are at, but also how they got there, and what factors attracted them to that place. The problem with the locational studies, on the other hand, is that they do not specifically address the Somali. In many instances, locational studies either look at immigrants in aggregate thus neglecting the different categories such as the refugees, or look at refugees in aggregate thus neglecting the different groups. Separating immigrants into their respective category of entrance for research was an issue for Newbold (2002) because the different categories in which the immigrants enter encompass populations with different motivations and different levels of human and social capital. In addition, analyzing the different categories and groups is relevant because the manner and timing in which the foreign-born adjust and integrate into American society varies from one group to the next. There are additional problems with locational studies as they apply to this research. First of all, there is the issue of scale – according to Pigozzi (2004), scale is of fundamental importance because different patterns and causal forces operate at different scales. So, with respect to the refugees, results seen at the state level might be entirely different from what may be found at a more local level such as the county, city, or tract level. Secondly, the statistical tool used and the correlating nature of the data increases the probability of multicollinearity. Therefore, the significant coefficients found in previous studies might not be so significant. For these reasons, I employ an analysis that takes place at the county level and utilizes a statistical tool – principal components regression – that minimizes the effect of multicollinearity thereby allowing the retention of more variables to better describe the phenomenon under study.

To fill the gap in the literature pertaining to some of the spatial aspects of the Somali population residing in the United States, this research examines the following research questions; (1) to determine if Somali migrations are related to clan more so than other socio-demographic variables, (2) to determine if clans are establishing areas of dominance which could affect the flow of migration. For example, would members of the Somali who still adhere to clan traditions avoid certain cities if they know that members of a rival clan make up the majority of the Somali population in that city? The specific research questions are as follows:

- (3) To determine if the cities where the Somali are initially resettled diversified with respect to clan-families.
- (4) To determine if the Somali have dispersed from their original sites of resettlement.
- (5) To determine which socio-demographic factors are associated with the distribution of Somalis.
- (6) To determine socio-demographic factors associated with Somali migration within the United States.
- (7) To determine which cities are most associated with specific Somali clans and the factors related to that association.

CHAPTER 5: DATA AND METHODS

To answer the research questions, a combination of both quantitative and qualitative data was used. The quantitative data was secured from a variety of government database sources and the qualitative data was derived from surveys. The data and methods are discussed in steps that are aligned with the research questions.

Step 1: Determination of Clan-Family in Cities of Initial Resettlement

I am seeking to determine if the cities in which the Somali are resettled diversified with respect to the clan-families that are resettled through the ORR within the United States. With respect to this research question, my hypothesis is that the cities, in which the Somali are initially resettled, on average, are highly diversified. The data for this step came from a special tabulation from the ORR's Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System (WRAPS). WRAPS is a database of information pertaining to the refugees resettled here in the United States. The special tabulation obtained contains information for fiscal years 1990 thru 2009 relating to the refugee's country of origin, year of admission, ethnicity (clan-family affiliation), state of resettlement, city of resettlement, county of resettlement, and count. I used the ethnicity field to isolate the Somali by city and by clan-family and a count was totaled for each. A minimum population threshold of 10 Somali was applied to the dataset to avoid incorporating communities into the analysis that were likely to immediately lose their resettled population. During an interview with a counselor from the Community Refugee and Immigration Services in Ohio, it was revealed that the majority of the time when the Somali are resettled in communities with less than 10 to 15 Somalis (which is sometimes equivalent to one or two families) they

embark on secondary migrations right away – sometimes even a couple of days after arriving in the community (Staff 2010). A diversity value was assigned to each city using Simpson’s Index of Diversity. In ecology, the Simpson Index of Diversity is used to quantify the biodiversity of a habitat. The primary strength of the index is that it takes into account the aspects of richness and evenness. Richness refers to the number of species found in a given sample and evenness refers to the abundance of the different species making up the richness of the habitat. The index for each city was averaged to test my hypothesis. The index values were also mapped in ArcGIS to identify any emerging spatial patterns from the values; for example, are there specific regions or states in which the Somalis are sent to more or less diverse? The Simpson’s Index of Diversity (D) is denoted by the following formula (DeJong 1975):

$$D = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^S n_i(n_i - 1)}{N(N - 1)}$$

For the purpose of this research, the Simpson’s Index of Diversity is used to quantify Somali clan-family diversity in resettlement cities where S equals the number of clan-family groupings, n_i equals the number of persons belonging to i th clan and N equals the total number of persons in the sample. Determination of the degree of diversity (high, low, or moderate) was established using the Jenks Natural Breaks Classification method to determine the best categorization of the values.

At the most basic level, indices of diversity are applied to determine the variation in categorical data. Thus, it is used here to determine the variation in the resettled Somali

population. Diversity indices can be used to assess the diversity of any population in which each member belongs to a unique category. Resultant values range from 0.0 to 1.0 with increasing diversity as the value ascends. There are many measures of diversity, but the three most commonly used are the Simpson Index, the total number of species, and Shannon's entropy (Hill 1973). Most of the proposed diversity indices – while theoretically useful – have a degree of bias with regard to sample size, especially when the sample size is small. This issue with sample bias prompted the widespread use of the Simpson's Index because it has been shown to yield unbiased sample estimates and its sampling variance is known (Smith and Grassle 1977). One of the major criticisms of the Simpson's Index is that it tends to be heavily dependent on the dominant group within the habitat. The index used in this research represents the probability that two Somalis picked at random will be members of different clan-families.

The purpose of this step is to establish that there is a high degree of imposed diversity among the clan-families in their initial resettlement communities. According to Simich (2003), a survey of secondary migrants in Canada revealed that refugees felt that they should have been given a choice about their destination, and it would have been more beneficial if the officials would have respected their “wishes to join friends or family for reasons of psychological security and the ability to fill practical needs. If these wishes are not respected, refugees almost certainly will cross arbitrarily imposed boundaries” (p.589). This scenario is pertinent to the Somali refugees. The Somali have typically been portrayed as coming from an ethnically homogenous society sharing one religion, speaking one language, and practicing one tradition and culture (Brons 2001). Lewis (2004), however, notes that their culture of kinship is divisive as evident by the continuing clan conflict. The way kinships “are formulated in Somali ideology, have many

characteristics of race” (p.490). If the Somali are being resettled without location choice, and their resettlement is based on a Somali national identity without regards to clan affiliation, then the refugees resettled in the United States could be exhibiting the same sort of drive as the Somali in Canada. It is possible that they are emigrating from areas where Somali are present, but the particular Somali are from rival clans. It is also possible that the Somali are taking on secondary and subsequent migrations not simply to reunite with fellow Somali, but to reunite with fellow clansmen while at the same time, fleeing rival clansmen.

Step 2: Determination of Somali Dispersion

In this second step, my objective is to determine if the Somali are dispersing (i.e. the state of being dispersed as in a localized diaspora) out from their sites of original resettlement. The abundance of research on refugees tends to support the notion that they embark on secondary migrations to established ethnic enclaves, therefore, becoming more clustered. I believe the opposite is true of the Somali, thus my hypothesis is - the Somali are dispersing from their original sites of resettlement therefore becoming more diffused throughout the United States. Data for this step was secured from the 2000 Census of Population and the WRAPS. The statistical tool used in this step was the spatial index of relative clustering (RCL). Clustering indices measure the degree to which racial and ethnic groups live disproportionately in contiguous spatial units or cluster in space.

According to Massey and Denton (1988), the RCL compares the average distance between the minority (X) group members with the average distance between the majority (Y) group members. The resulting value is 0 when X and Y display the same amount of spatial

clustering; the value is positive when X is more clustered than Y and negative when X is less clustered than Y. The relative clustering index is identified by the following formula:

$$RCL = P_{xx} / P_{yy} - 1 \quad \text{where}$$

$$P_{xx} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{x_i x_j c_{ij}}{X^2}$$

and

$$P_{yy} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{y_i y_j c_{ij}}{Y^2}$$

This analysis takes place at the county level, so the WRAPS data at the county level is used. First, I isolated all of the cases from the database that indicate Somalia as the country of origin for the years 1990 thru 1999. The count for these cases is summed by county and a new field is created with the Somali count for each county. This new field containing the Somali count at the county level will be labeled ‘MINOR’ for use in the RCL formula. It was vital that the MINOR field be created at the county level so that it would match up with the 2000 Census county level files. The particular table (QT-P15) of interest from the 2000 Census concerning the Somali was downloaded in comma separated value format from the American Factfinder website²⁸ at the county level for each state. Combining the states resulted in a Somali count for each U.S. County and this comprised the ‘MAJOR’ field for the RCL. These fields were then joined to a U.S. county level shapefile via the county’s fips code. With this shapefile – named cluster – all the information was present to conduct the relative clustering analysis using the Segregation Analyzer, a C# Net application for GIS. The MINOR field served as the X and the MAJOR field served as the Y. What I intend to establish is that the Somali are dispersing from their initial sites of resettlement by establishing a difference between where they *are* (MAJOR

²⁸ American Factfinder website: http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

field from the census) and where they were actually *sent* (MINOR field from the WRAPS). I am looking for a resulting number that is positive which would indicate that the MINOR group is more clustered than the MAJOR group.

Step 3: Identification of Somali Locational Determinants

The objective of this step is to identify the order of importance for the factors assumed to be associated with the location of Somalis. This step deals with social, economic, and demographic variables, so the data for this step was extracted from various databases. Table 5.1 is a list of the variables used, their aspect, and their description. Sources for the variables are provided in Table A.3 of the appendix. The aspect category is a general grouping of the variables that I believe – from reading archive data - carries the most weight in determining where the Somali are located. I have identified eleven aspects with corresponding variables.

Given the number of explanatory variables and their nature (a high degree of correlation), the most appropriate statistical tool for determining the association of these variables is a Principal Components Regression (PCR). According to Cadwallader (1992), the explanatory variables in such models are often interrelated, thus posing problems of multicollinearity in estimating the regression coefficients by ordinary least-squares analysis (p.70). Consequently, Riddell (1970) has suggested that the set of explanatory variables might first be subjected to principal components analysis (PCA), thus generating a smaller number of orthogonal components that reflect the underlying similarities of the original variables. These components, as measured by the component scores, are then used in the regression equation, permitting a more realistic interpretation of the coefficients.

Table 5.1: Variables used for step 3 - locational determinants.

Aspect	Label	Description
1. Employment	wage	Average wage per job for the county
	jobs	The estimated per capita number of jobs for the county
	unemp	The unemployment rate for the county
2. Public housing	subunt	Number of open units under contract for federal subsidy
	wait	Average months on waiting list among admissions
	utilall	Average utility allowance among households who have it
3. Public Assistance	fspart	FSP Participation Per Poor Person
	fsben	FSP Benefits Per Poor Person
	tanfben	TANF Benefits Per Poor Person
4. Crime	crm	Crime per 1000 persons
5. Schools	doutr	Drop-out rate for teens 16-19
6. Health	hosp	Number of hospitals
	ins	Percent of persons insured
	phys	Number of physicians
	mort	Infant mortality rate
7. Climate	clmt	Number of climate events causing more than \$50,000 in damages.
8. Population	pop00	Total population
	pwhite	Percent of the population white
	pblack	Percent of the population black
	pfrbrn	Percent of the population foreign-born entering between 1990 and 2000
	mnage	median age of the population
	ppov	Percent of the population in poverty
	pdense	Population density (square mile)
9. Households	fmlyhh	Percent of households: family
	vac	Vacancy rate for rental units
	3bed	Percent of households: 3 + bedrooms
	mrent	Median rent asked
	mreal	Median real estate taxes
10. Political	party	Percent of population voting Democrat
11. Religion	muslad	Muslim adherence rate

PCR is a technique used to handle the problem of multicollinearity and produce stable and meaningful estimates for regression coefficients (Fekedulegn, et al. 2002); it is a method that combines linear regression with a PCA. This method transforms a set of correlated variables into a set of uncorrelated principal components (Liu, et al. 2003). The components are linear combinations of the original correlated variables; therefore, the components can be utilized as explanatory variables in a regression model to obtain parameter estimates, which can then be used to reconstitute the regression coefficients of the original explanatory variables that are now corrected in such a way that minimizes the multicollinearity (O'Brian, Lloyd and Kaneene 1995). The variables in Table 5.1 serve as the independent or predictor variables. The dependent variable was created from the Somali count from the MAJOR field from step 2. The MAJOR field was divided by the total number of Somalis from the census and multiplied by 100 to create a field that is the percent of the Somali population in each county (SOMCEN). The statistical program used was SYSTAT and the principal component analysis (PCA) – the initial portion of the PCR – was conducted using Varimax rotation. The random variable method was used to identify the correct number of dimensions to keep. The random variable (RAND) was used to illuminate the meaningful dimensions in the set – the dimension in which the RAND variable had a large loading (loading > 0.6) and all subsequent dimensions were considered meaningless. The analysis was then run again based on the appropriate number of dimensions and the scores were saved. The scores were then used in a regression with the dependent variable (SOMCEN). The standardized coefficients from this model were used in a matrix multiplication process with the PCA's coefficients for standardized factor scores to reconstitute the regression coefficient.

The formula for this action was: ${}^m R^{-1} {}^{mm} F_{pp} C_1 \cong {}^m B_1$ where ${}^m R^{-1} {}^{mm} F_p$ represented the coefficients for standardized factor scores; ${}^p C_1$ represented the model's standardized

coefficients; and ${}^m B_1$ represented the reconstituted regression coefficients. The generalized regression equation for this model was $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_k x_k + \varepsilon$ where y represented the percent of the Somali population in each county, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k represented the independent variables, and $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k$ represented the regression coefficients to be estimated, and ε represented the error term.

Step 4: Identify Somali Migration Determinants

The objective of this step is to identify and order the socio-demographic variables that contribute the most to Somali migration. The variables and data (Table 5.2) are similar to those in step 3, in addition, I added the clan diversity aspect and clan diversity variable from step 1. The source of the variables is provided in Table A.4 of the appendix. My underlying theme is that migration is driven by clan motivation; therefore I believe that in these movements, the places sought out would be places with low diversity indicating a low number of clans or no clans. The method of analysis and statistical package for use is the same as in step 3 – PCR analyzed with SYSTAT; however, the source of the dependent variable is different. In this step, the data for the dependent variable comes from Public Use Microdata Sample files (PUMS) at the Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) level. PUMS files are a sample of individual records from the census long form from the decennial census. PUMS files contain information on housing units and their occupants that allow users to create tabulations, which could answer a wide range of social and economic questions about a specific population.

Table 5.2: Variables used for step 4 - migration determinants.

Aspect	Label	Description
1. Employment	wage	Average wage per job for the county
	jobs	The estimated per capita number of jobs for the county
	unemp	The unemployment rate for the county
2. Public housing	subunt	Number of open units under contract for federal subsidy
	wait	Average months on waiting list among admissions
	utilall	Average utility allowance among households who have it
3. Public Assistance	fspart	FSP Participation Per Poor Person
	fsben	FSP Benefits Per Poor Person
	tanfben	TANF Benefits Per Poor Person
4. Crime	crm	Crime per 1000 persons
5. Schools	doutr	Drop-out rate for teens 16-19
6. Health	hosp	Number of hospitals
	ins	Percent of persons insured
	phys	Number of physicians
	mort	Infant mortality rate
7. Climate	clmt	Number of climate events causing more than \$50,000 in damages.
8. Population	pop00	Total population
	somcen	Percent of the Somali population
	pwhite	Percent of the population white
	pblack	Percent of the population black
	pfrbrn	Percent of the population foreign-born entering between 1990 and 2000
	mnage	median age of the population
	ppov	Percent of the population in poverty
	pdense	Population density (square mile)
9. Households	fmlyhh	Percent of households: family
	vac	Vacancy rate for rental units
	3bed	Percent of households: 3 + bedrooms
	mrent	Median rent asked
	mreal	Median real estate taxes
10. Political	party	Percent of population voting Democrat
11. Religion	muslad	Muslim adherence rate
12. Clan	cland	Clan diversity calculated in step 1

For this research, I used the 5-percent files - this means the data was drawn from a five percent sample of the population. These samples entail a minimum population threshold for reasons of confidentiality; the threshold for this data is set at one hundred thousand people and the size of the population corresponds with the geographic boundaries of the PUMA. PUMAs follow along the boundaries of counties and rarely cross state or metropolitan boundary lines. These geographical units do not have formal names; they are identified by a five-digit number and are a composite of census tracts, places, or counties. The majority of PUMAs are county-sized or less; however, in some cases, PUMAs are comprised of several counties – this occurs in areas where the county population does not exceed the minimum population threshold.

PUMS contains data pertaining to migration; the database can be used to compile a count of the persons in a tabulated census area who indicated that they lived in different tabulated census areas 5 years prior to the date the census was taken and where that census area was located. By creating a matrix for each state's PUMAs consisting of the PUMA of residence in 2000 and the PUMA of residence prior to 1995, the state files can be merged to create a master matrix of all the PUMAs in the United States, their population, and the origins of their migrant population. This task is accomplished using a DVD purchased from the U.S. Census Bureau of the Census 2000 Public Use Microdata Sample Census of Population and Housing. The PUMS 2000 DVD ²⁹contains a copy of Beyond 20/20, a professional browser, which allows for the creation of cross tabulated extracts of the resident and migration PUMAs by racial or ethnic group for each state. This DVD was used to create extracts for all those who indicated Somali

²⁹ The files in the PUMS DVD contains the individual weights for each case (persons / housing unit), which when applied expands the sample to the relevant totals. Thus applying weights to the PUMS data from this DVD is unnecessary as opposed to using raw PUMS data.

ancestry that are migrants. This data was extracted at the PUMA level which, as explained, is of a different scale than the county level independent variables.

To adequately use the extracted data, I used ArcGIS to join the extracted data to the Census PUMA shapefile via the five-digit identifier. I then used the U.S. counties shapefile to parse the PUMA shapefile. This resulted in a file that allowed for the identification of PUMAs that are equal to or less than a county. The data in the PUMAs equal to a county were left unaltered and data in each of the PUMAs less than a county were aggregated to the county level. This resulted in a file of Somali migrants at the county level. The cases in which the PUMAs were greater than a county were deleted from the file because of the problems associated with disaggregating data. The newly created file with the county level Somali migrant counts were then joined with the file of county level independent variables via the county identifiers. Once all the data was imported into SYSTAT, the Somali count was transformed into the percent of Somali population similar to what was done in step 3. The PCR was then performed to identify the variables that contributed the most to Somali migration. Not only did the PCR identify those variables, it also identified the meaningful dimensions found within the data therefore illuminating aspects that I may not have conceived.

Step 5: Determination of Cities Associated with Specific Clans

The objective of this step was to determine if there are cities where certain clans dominate. To answer this question and to paint a broader picture of the Somali secondary migrations, I drew upon qualitative data derived from surveys, interviews, and participant observation. I hypothesized that with the increased dispersion of Somalis within the United

States, some cities / towns are becoming associated with specific clans. With the available data, I identified *where* Somalis were initially resettled by clan-family; I also identified *where* Somalis migrate; but, I could not identify *where* Somali clan-families migrate. To rectify this shortcoming, I relied on surveys designed to elicit information about Somali clan-family migration and settlement. The first survey pertained to organizations and agencies that provide services to Somalis. I obtained a list of 54 Somali organizations spanning 20 states, which contains a contact name, telephone number, and email address for each of the organizations. Additionally, I obtained a contact list for over 200 voluntary agencies spanning 44 states and 151 cities. The surveys for these organizations / agencies were designed to extract information pertaining to the Somali groups they may serve. The information the survey was designed to elicit included (but was not limited to) – whether they served multiple clans or was there one clan in particular that they extend their services to. The survey was also designed to elicit information on their opinion about the possibilities of a dominant clan existing in their area – both numerically and politically. If the organizations / agencies are found to serve the Somali, then the survey would extract information pertaining to *which* Somali clans they provide services to. The survey was also designed to determine, – whether or not the organizations / agencies were dealing with secondary migrants, and if so, were *they* from a specific clan. The questions for this survey can be found in Table A.5 of the Appendix. This survey is for distribution in electronic format utilizing Infopoll web-based survey software. According to Solomon (2001), web-based surveys offer significant advantages, but there are methodological issues. Of priority concern was the validity of the data. If one does not ensure precautions, access to the survey may not be just limited to the subjects but also to those who maliciously or accidentally discover the survey on the web. In either case, the intended sample could become tainted.

The last group I focused on was the Somali secondary migrants in Columbus themselves. I used a mixture of instruments to obtain information from the Somali community. This included the use of surveys, unstructured interviews, and participant observation. Questions for the survey can be found in Table A.6 of the Appendix. Reliance on multiple instruments has become commonplace in Somali studies because of closed nature of the group. An excellent example of the use of multiple research instruments can be seen in Bjork's study of the Somali practice of "telling" clan affiliation. In the study, Bjork (2007) used a combination of surveys, formal and informal interviews, and participant observation. The difficulty in using just a single instrument is best noted by Schaid and Grossman (2007) in their study of Somalis in Barron, Wisconsin. With respect to surveys, the authors noted that not only was there issues with literacy, there were also issues with finding gathering points for Somalis to distribute the surveys because of the residual effects of 9/11. Schaid and Grossman asserted that, because of raids on Somali businesses in Minneapolis – in addition to the attempted expatriation of several Somali community leaders – Somalis all across America went on guard making the survey process difficult and time consuming. As mentioned earlier, the Somalis are a tight-knit and guarded community. So prior to designing their survey I first gathered information on the community via the process of participant observation. I used these observations to guide the manner in which I created the questions for the surveys and unstructured interviews. The unstructured interviews were guided by questions from the survey.

Participant Observation

Participant observation is a qualitative method based in ethnographic research, whose objective is to help researchers learn about the perspectives held by the subject population. This

method is distinctive because the researcher learns what life is like for the “insider” while remaining an “outsider” in the insider’s own environment (Mack, et al. 2005). The researcher basically records - in field notes - everything he or she sees as objectively as possible. Participant observation typically starts with a period of anonymity where the researcher observes the group under study. In time, the researcher reaches out to a person in the subject population that the researcher believes could become a valuable asset in gaining information on and contacts within the community. That person becomes a key informant. I used this approach to procure a key informant and from the informant, I secured insight into the community as well as contact information for potential survey recipients and interview subjects.

Snowball Sampling

The nature of the tight-knit community dictated the use of purposive sampling. Purposive sampling is when the researcher samples with the purpose of selecting specific predefined groups. A widely used method of purposive sampling is snowball sampling (Wong 2008). Snowball sampling is a term applied to sampling procedures that allow the sample subjects to provide information about themselves and about other potential subjects (Frank and Snijders 1994). This method is particularly suited for when the focus of study is on a sensitive issue or private matters requiring the knowledge of insiders to locate people for study (Biernacki and Waldorf 1981). The snowball sampling is a non-probability method often employed in field research where each subject interviewed or surveyed is asked to suggest additional subjects open to contact (Babbie 1989). This sampling method assumes the subjects are typically members of social networks, thus when asking them to identify others the interviewer is using the subjects knowledge to reveal or to identify their social network (Snow, Hutcheson and Prather 1981).

This is an efficient method for identifying hidden populations³⁰ or populations that keep low social visibility. Hidden population refers to a subpopulation of individuals who are unwilling to disclose themselves (Frank and Snijders 1994). The snowball technique, therefore, allows resources to be concentrated on interviewing/surveying the most applicable subjects rather than on screening the entire population to find the target subjects (Snow, Hutcheson and Prather 1981). According to Frank and Snijders (1994);

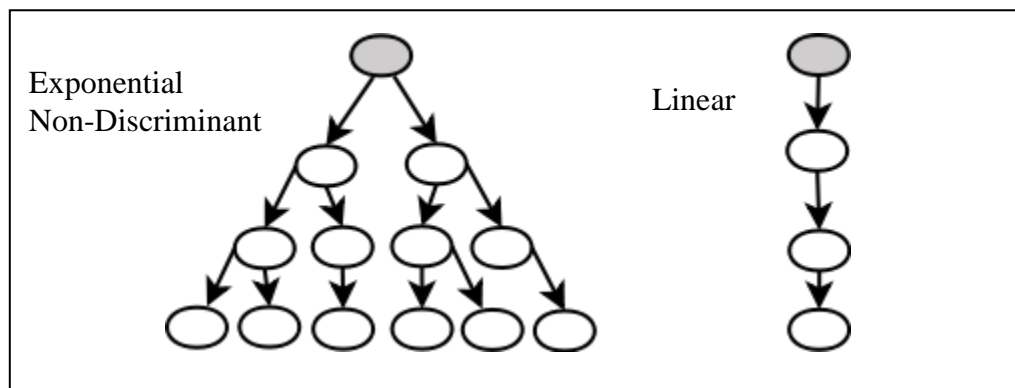
Very few members of a hidden population can usually be found by standard sampling methods. Often, however, there exists a contact pattern between the members of the hidden population, which means that they know of each other. If these contacts could be used for finding members of the hidden population, then new estimation problems arise because of the nonstandard sampling procedure. Snowball sampling is a way of having initially sampled individuals lead you to other members of the hidden population, which in turn could lead to further members. (p.53)

Thus a key condition for the successful application of the snowball method is that the subjects know of others with the traits under instigation and can provide contact information (Kalton and Anderson 1986). This method was applied because of the secretive nature of the Somali population when issues concerning clan are brought up by those that are not Somali – i.e. outsiders. Even though this method is most appropriate, there are some assumed biases due to the method's nonrandom nature. Welch (1975) lists three kinds of bias associated with snowball sampling: (1) under-sampling of isolated members of the community and oversampling of those with more extensive contacts. This potentially leads to (2) bias in the socioeconomic class of the respondents and (3) bias against those persons with views that are unpopular within the community. Petersen and Valdez (2005) however, insists that the biases can be minimized by: (1) avoiding institutional references, (2) maintaining high visibility within the target population,

³⁰ Hidden populations refer to subsets of a population whose membership is not easily distinguished based on existing knowledge or for sampling capabilities (Petersen and Valdez 2005).

(3) making frequent social contacts within the target community, and (4) using community gatekeepers. Biases can also be reduced by using the exponential non-discriminant form of snowball sampling (Figure 5.1). The bias noted by Welch (1975) typically occurs when using the linear form of snowball sampling. However, by using the exponential non-discriminant form, I increased the likelihood of including multiple networks and different social classes within my sample population.

Figure 5.1: Forms of snowball sampling.



Again, when working with hidden populations, using more conventional sampling techniques are often inadequate for producing data, leaving researchers to employ other strategies. Snowball sampling methods are the preferred method when studying groups whose members are hard to identify. The nature of the method, however, means the samples are neither random nor representative, thus resulting in selection bias and limitations in validity (Petersen and Valdez 2005). And, since the samples are non-probability samples, objective weighting adjustments cannot be employed to compensate for this factor (Kalton and Anderson 1986).

With regard to the results;

When research concerns a known population, the choice of sample design is dependent on individual research goals. Whereas quantitative designs use 'representative' sampling strategies to make inferences about a whole population, qualitative sampling designs are non-generalizable, but provide maximum theoretical understanding of social process. (Biernacki and Waldorf 1981)

Thus, the results cannot be used to make generalization about all Somali secondary migrants, but it can be used for understanding the secondary migration phenomenon.

Unlike the first surveys, the survey for the Somali was in hard-copy format to minimize some of the biases that might be apparent with the use of electronic media. The first two surveys were web-based without overwhelming fear of biases because one of the modes of contact was by e-mail. This action assumed that the recipients did have access to the Internet. All three surveys consisted of twenty to twenty-five open and close-ended questions requiring ten to twenty minutes to complete. The surveys were of enumerative inquiry. This approach involved the listing or classifying of items by percentages, frequencies, rank order or whatever was useful in solving the research question (Grbich 2007). The test for survey reliability was accomplished through the alternate-form method, which involved imbedding the survey with duplicate questions measuring the same attribute, but worded differently. The validity of the survey was tested via the face and content validity methods whereby the survey was subjected to review by both trained and untrained individuals in the field of survey research. Finally, a pilot test of the survey was conducted to ensure the survey measured what it was supposed to measure. The survey portion of the research adhered to protocols set forth by the Institutional Review Board to protect the identity and confidentiality of the research subjects.

Columbus, Ohio as Case

The location chosen for the participant observation, surveys, and interviews to take place was Columbus Ohio. Columbus represented a unique opportunity for a couple of reasons; first and foremost is the fact that Columbus was recently the destination point for a large Somali refugee secondary migration – the migrants had no apparent links or prospects in the city. Second, Columbus was an ideal place for study because of its proximity to this researcher. Finally, Columbus has the second largest grouping of Somalis in the United States, which increased the potential pool of survey subjects.

Table 5.3 contains the most recent data from the American Community Survey pertaining to the demographic and social characteristics of Columbus Ohio. By all accounts, Columbus is economically thriving and was ranked the eighth best big city in 2006 by Money Magazine (CNN Money 2011). Columbus has a total population of over 750,000 people – 66.0 percent white, 25.7 percent are black, and 4.0 percent Asian. Out of this population, 4.6 percent are Hispanic, and 9.5 percent of the population is foreign-born. Columbus has a fairly young population, the median age is estimated at 31.2 which is below the median age for the country. From an educational aspect, over 87.0 percent of the population had a high school diploma or higher and 32.5 percent had a Bachelor's degree or higher. Median family income and per capita income are lower than the national average; however, the difference is nominal given the low cost of living in Columbus. The negative aspect of the city concerns the poverty rate – both individual and family poverty rates (19.9 and 14.8 respectively) are well above the national average (13.5 and 9.9 respectively).

Table 5.3: ACS demographic estimates - 2005-2009 for Columbus, OH.				
Population Characteristics	Estimate	Percent	U.S.	Margin of Error
Total population	753,572			+/-323
White	497,387	66.0	74.5%	+/-2,223
Black	193,688	25.7	12.4%	+/-1,897
Asian	30,121	4.0	4.4%	+/-1,003
Hispanic	34,464	4.6	15.10%	+/-1,180
Social Characteristics	Estimate	Percent	U.S.	Margin of Error
Avg. family size	3.07	(X)	3.1	+/-0.0
Median age (years)	31.2	(X)	36.5	+/-0.2
Population 25 years and over	490,808	65.1		+/-1,519
High school graduate or higher	(X)	87.0	84.6%	(X)
Bachelor's degree or higher	(X)	32.5	27.5%	(X)
Foreign born	71,796	9.5	12.4%	+/-2,490
Economic Characteristics (in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	Estimate	Percent	U.S.	Margin of Error
In labor force (16+)	417,995	70.2	65.0%	+/-3,032
Median family income	52,917	(X)	62,363	+/-799
Per capita income	23,472	(X)	27,041	+/-250
Families below poverty level	(X)	14.8	9.9%	+/-0.7
Individuals below poverty level	(X)	19.9	13.5%	+/-0.7
Housing Characteristics	Estimate	Percent	U.S.	Margin of Error
Total housing units	367,419			+/-1,570
Occupied housing units	313,416	85.3	88.2%	+/-2,096
Owner-occupied housing units	159,047	50.7	66.9%	+/-1,814
Renter-occupied housing units	154,369	49.3	33.1%	+/-2,217
Source: (FILES: 2005-2009 American Community Survey Ohio / prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau 2011).				

On the positive side, over 70.2 percent of the population that is 16 years old and over are in the labor force. At the beginning of 2011, Columbus had an unemployment rate of 8.3 which was lower than the rate for the State of Ohio – 10.1 (The Columbus Dispatch 2011).

Columbus represents an ideal resettlement community, and since 1990, the ORR has resettled over 4917 Somali in the city (Figure 5.2). The Somali resettled in Columbus have come from diverse groups. Table 5.4 is a compilation of ORR data arranged according to the top 10 groupings from the Somali refugee population resettled in Columbus between 1990 and 2009. Figure 5.2 shows the Somali resettlement count starting in 1993 because that is the first year the database officially recorded the Somalis as being resettled in Columbus. Finding the count of the Somali population *resettled* in Columbus is a straight forward process, but figuring out the Somali population that *actually lives* in Columbus, on the other hand, has been a major issue because of secondary migrations. Census estimates place the population at over 10,000; Somali born literature places the count at 45,000; and Somali organizations have eluded to numbers as high as 80,000 (Community Research Partners 2009). Given such divergent estimates, the Community Research Partners (CRP) issued a report in which they used the latest census data and conducted tests on two other estimation methods to derive a more accurate estimation of the Somali population in Columbus. According to the report, The American Community Survey (ACS) put estimates at $7,585 \pm 1922$, the CRP student-data method placed the population at 13,926 for the year 2007, and the CRP birth-data method placed the 2007 Franklin County Somali population between 13,311 and 41,338 – Columbus would account for 90 percent of the births (Community Research Partners 2009).

Figure 5.2: Somali ORR resettlement in Columbus by year.

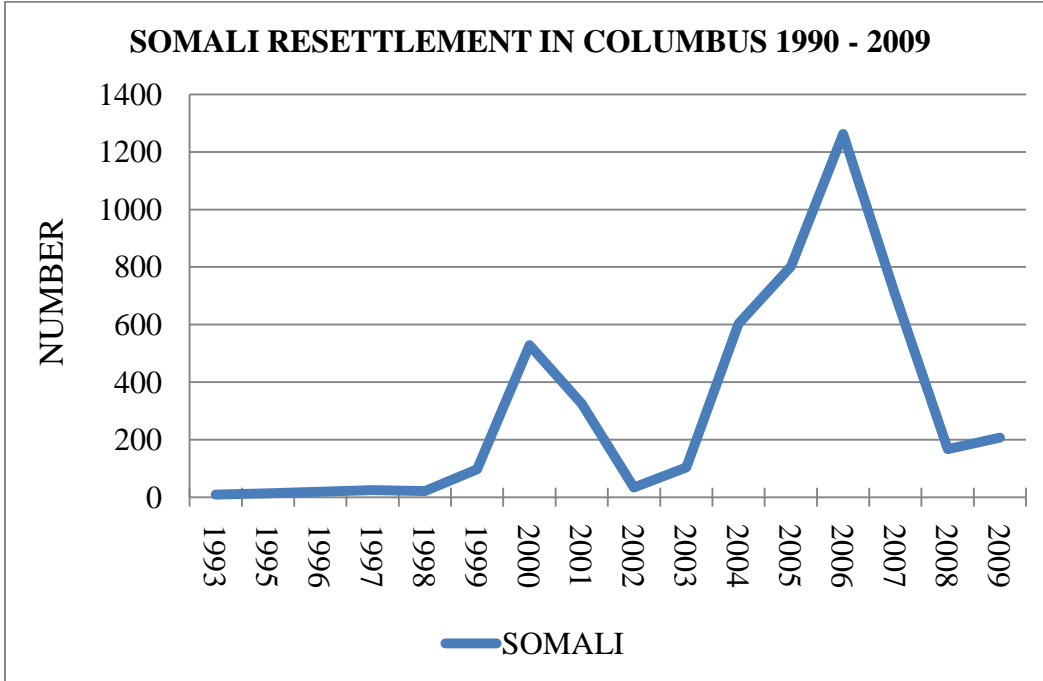


Table 5.4: Top 10 Somali groups resettled in Columbus, OH - 1990 - 2009.

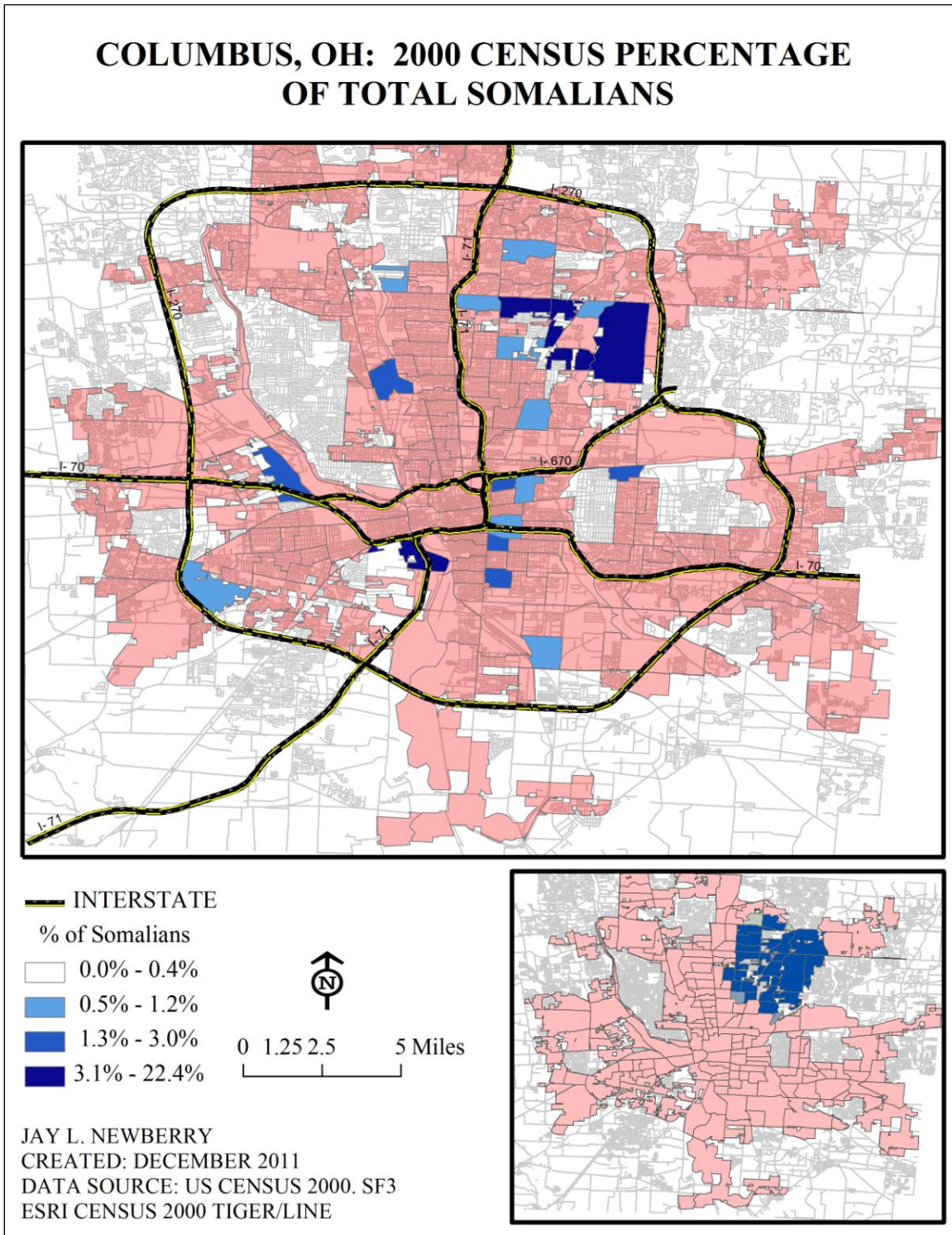
Rank	Group	Number	Percent
1	Darood	1801	36.6
2	Other	1758	35.8
3	Tuni	266	5.4
4	Barawan	250	5.1
5	Midgan	160	3.3
6	Benadir	129	2.6
7	Tumale	113	2.3
8	Hawiye	54	1.1
9	Rahanweyn	36	0.7
10	Isaaq	26	0.5
Total for top 10 resettled Somali groups:		4593	93.4

A total of 4917 Somalis were resettled in Columbus, those that did not identify their ethnic grouping were classified as “unknown.”

The report concluded that the most accurate figure would place the Franklin County Somali population for the year 2007 at 15,000 which translates into a Somali population of 13,500 for Columbus which is more reasonable, and within the lower bracket of the other estimates.

While the actual population count remains an issue, their spatial distribution in Columbus is not (Figure 5.3). The vast majority of Somali – even though they can be found residing in many neighborhoods in Columbus (the larger map at the census tract level) – are fairly concentrated in the northeast section of the city in the Linden area as revealed by the Hot Spot Analysis (the second smaller map). Many of the Somali refugees were placed in public housing projects in this area by resettlement agencies because it was a predominantly lower-class African American neighborhood. According to Riley (2005), the assumption in placement was that the two groups would get along based on skin color, however, these assumptions were found to be wrong as the city faced an escalation in tension (which is still apparent today) and conflict between the two groups over space and resources. While the tension was initially thought to be group specific differences, the research conducted by Riley uncovered information pointing to deeper issues – issues concerning the distribution of resources. The African American population felt slighted because of the resources (both federal and local) that have been provided to the Somali in Columbus (Riley 2005). These resources include local business start-up funds from local agency/city partnerships. Thus, a large part of the tension revolved around the access to capital that was made available for the Somali, but not for the African American population. This tension was fueled by the notion that the vast majority of Somalis are not citizens, yet their access to financial resources was better than that of citizens.

Figure 5.3: Somali residential distribution in Columbus.



Limitations of the Data

There are three main limitations of the data. First, there is the issue of time. The census and PUMS data both are for the census year 2000. The census and PUMS represent a snapshot of a period in time. At that period in time, only one-third of the Somalis currently residing in the United States were present for enumeration. Because of this limitation, my analysis cannot illuminate the conditions that currently affect the Somali migrants with respect to locational determinants. A second limitation of the data deals with scale. While this analysis is at a level – to this researcher’s knowledge that is – lower than any previous research, I faced a possible loss of pertinent data when converting over from PUMA to county level Somali migrant counts in step 4. Step 4 dictated the removal of those PUMAs (and the enclosed county counter-parts) where the PUMA was comprised of more than one county because of issues with disaggregating data. The PUMAs that were removed represented the extreme rural areas and the impact to the overall Somali count is likely to be nominal. However, this represents a limitation because I was unable to use the entire dataset (in step 4) with the deletions, which could affect the predictive power of the regression model. A third limitation of the data is the lack of specification of Somali clan/ethnicity in the PUMS. PUMS data lists Somalis in their migration tables, but it does not list clan affiliation. If clan affiliation were listed, this would have added definitive strength to my argument that Somali migrations are associated with clan movement. In light of this limitation, reliance was placed on responses to the surveys to highlight destination points for the Somali migrants with respect to clan affiliation. This limitation can also be seen in the clan diversity index, which was derived because there is no specific information in the census about the Somali clan-families that would enable me to quantify the difference between *where* clans were sent with the Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System data, and where they

moved to with the census data. Therefore, I relied on the magnitude of clan diversity to indicate clan association with migration when taken in consideration with information extracted from their ethnic origins.

CHAPTER 6: RESEARCH FINDINGS

Determination of Clan-Family Diversity in Cities of Initial Resettlement

There were 179 cities included in this analysis of the clan-family diversity. Results from the Simpson’s Index of Diversity (Table 6.1) reveal that the index for the 179 cities, on average, was 0.467 for the 1990 to 1999 admission period. This indicates a medium level of diversity. The results represent the probability that two Somalis picked at random will be members of different clan-families.

Table 6.1: Resettlement city diversity (N=179).					
Simpson's Index of Diversity		Paired Samples T-Test			
Years	Index	Std. Deviation	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
1990 - 1999	0.467	0.270	-8.373	178	0.000
1990 - 2009	0.578	0.273			
<i>Jenks Natural Breaks Category of Diversity.</i>					
0-0.154		low level diversity			
0.155-0.556		medium level diversity			
0.557 - 1.00		high level diversity			

This step of the research however is concerned with the more inclusive timeline of data ranging from the start of the refugee flow in 1990 to the more recent round of admissions in 2009. Results for the 1990 to 2009 admission period revealed a diversity index of 0.578 which is a high level of diversity. This result lends support to my overall theory that Somali migrations within the United States are influenced to some degree by clan factors. The diversity in all cities included in this analysis, on average, saw an increase in clan-family diversity. The Simpson’s

Index of Diversity for the cities for the period ending in 2009 was, on average, 0.026 points higher than the period ending in 1999. A Paired Samples T-test successfully revealed a statistically reliable difference between the diversity results for these two periods. The increased diversity can be attributed to the increased count of Somalis being admitted after the year 2000. This can also be attributed to family reunification whereby the refugees previously resettled fill out affidavits of relationship to have family members join them. If the family extends across clan-families, the affidavit could serve to increase the number of clan-families as well as their population count within the cities.

Determination of Somali Dispersion

Table 6.2 shows the results of the relative clustering analysis performed with the Segregation Analyzer. The result of this analysis is 0.253 which is a positive number that indicates that the MINOR group is more clustered than the MAJOR group.

TABLE 6.2: Index of relative clustering.			
Test	Group	Minor	Major
RCL	MINOR	0.000	0.253
	MAJOR	0.253	0.000

The interpretation of the result from this analysis leads to the conclusion that the average distance between the Somali population based on their initial resettlement locations was less than the average distance between the Somali population based on their locations for the 2000 Census count. The knowledge that the Somali population tended to be less clustered in the places they were *found at* versus the places they were *sent to* provides evidence of spatial dispersion from

the initial resettlement communities as hypothesized. Using ethnic origins as a foundation, I based my hypothesis on the historic behavior of the Somali people occupying specific territory in their home region by clan-family. It is my belief that given the limited amount of control over where they were sent when resettled in this country, the Somali enacted their own redistribution reconstituting supporting ties with fellow clansmen thus mimicking the spatial relationships similar to what was witnessed in Somalia. This would also fit with what Simich (2003) found with her research as she concluded that the displacement of refugees from their support network fed the secondary migration phenomenon.

Identification of Somali Locational Determinants

Results for the identification of the locational determinants are found in Tables 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5. The variables used to identify the locational determinants were first subjected to the PCA. The PCA portion of the PCR was conducted using the random variable method to identify the number of meaningful dimensions to extract. This was followed by a varimax rotation. Varimax rotation is an orthogonal rotation – the result was the extraction of dimensions that were uncorrelated. The random variable method identified nine meaningful dimensions for rotation – these orthogonal dimensions combined accounted for 73.6 percent of the total variance found within the dataset. The nine orthogonal dimensions, along with their corresponding variables with high loadings (> 0.6), are found in Table 6.3. In this orthogonal analysis, the loadings are equivalent to the correlation between the observed variables and the dimension.

Table 6.3: PCA Locational determinants - dimensions, loadings, and variance (n=1667).

Dimension 1: Level of Residential Development (10.75%)		Dimension 2: Welfare Generosity (7.62%)	
Total population	0.942	FSP Participation Per Poor Person	0.912
Number of hospitals	0.934	FSP Benefits Per Poor Person	0.909
Number of physicians	0.860		
Dimension 3: New Immigrant Magnet (6.39%)		Dimension 4: Family Accommodations (6.80%)	
Percent of the population foreign-born entering between 1990 and 2000	0.636	Percent of households: family	-0.881
median age of the population	-0.597	Percent of households: 3 + bedrooms	-0.658
Crime per 1000 persons	0.578		
Dimension 5: Regional Economic Effects (11.64%)		Dimension 6: Regional Employment Effects (10.40%)	
Median real estate taxes	0.747	Percent of persons insured	-0.822
Median rent asked	0.741	Percent of the population in poverty	0.751
Vacancy rate for rental units	-0.707	The unemployment rate for the county	0.722
Average wage per job for the county	0.658		
Dimension 7: Housing Availability (7.31%)		Dimension 8: Demographic Effects (8.84%)	
Population density (square miles)	0.935	Percent of the population black	0.895
Number of open units under contract for federal subsidy	0.927	Infant mortality rate	0.783
		Percent of the population white	-0.728
Dimension 9: Public Housing Demand (3.84%)			
Average months on waiting list among admissions	0.555		

Table 6.3 contains the first part of the results concerning the locations of the Somali. The dimension that explains the greatest amount of variation in the data (11.6 percent) is Dimension 5 which has been named “Regional Economic Effects” because the variables contained within this dimension are more sensitive to the effects of the economy. In this dimension, median rent, median real estate taxes, and average wages are positively correlated with the dimension while the vacancy rate variable is not. The dimension that accounts for the next largest amount of variation is Dimension 1 – “Level of Residential Development” – which accounted for 10.75 percent of the variation in the dataset. Dimension 1 contains variables pertaining to population size and some of the attributes associate with population size like a corresponding number of hospitals for the population and a corresponding number of physicians for the hospitals. The next dimension accounting for third largest percentage of the variation is Dimension 6 – 10.40 percent of the variation. Dimension 6 – or “Regional Employment Effects” – contains variables directly associated with employment – unemployment, insurance, and poverty. The unemployment and poverty have a positive correlation to the dimension. These dimensions where mentioned first because out of the amount of variation found in the dataset, these three dimensions combined account for close to one-half of that variation. One of the more interesting dimensions to note is Dimension 8 – “Racial Demographic Effects.” The variables with the highest loadings in this dimension include the percentage of the population that is black and white, and the infant mortality rate. What Dimension 8 reveals is the association between race and structural inequalities. The effects of this type of distribution, where the white and black populations are inversely related and the black group is dominant, is commonly reflected in the healthcare system as evident by a corresponding high infant mortality rate. Other dimensions of special interest are Dimensions 2, 3, and 4. Dimension 1 already infers locations that are highly

populated – Dimensions 2, 3, and 4 narrow the locations down to areas that are characterized by a high level of welfare usage and housing that is not family oriented. The dimensions also reveal that the locations are characterized by a younger population with a high degree of new immigrant arrivals and a high degree of criminal activity. Taken collectively, the extracted dimensions and their corresponding variables tend to describe locations with central city characteristics.

Table 6.4 contains information pertaining to the regression on the PCA scores from our nine dimensions. While the nine dimensions described earlier are extremely informative about Somali locations, Dimensions 2, 6, 7, 8, and 9 appear to be not very significant. Dimensions 1, 3, 4, and 5, however, are significant and the effects of multicollinearity in all dimensions have been neutralized as evident by the tolerance levels. The effect of the dimensions that were found to be not significant is not readily evident in the ordering of their variable's reconstituted coefficients in Table 6.5. In the table, those variables occupy positions throughout the ordering – with the exception of the top five.

Table 6.5 contains the reconstituted coefficient results of the PCR. The reconstituted coefficients are ordered because the objective is not to produce the largest possible coefficient of determination in reference to the R^2 , but rather to understand and explain the phenomenon under analysis (Riddell 1970). What we see in this table is that the locational determinants of the Somali appeared to be heavily influenced by variables from Dimension 1 concerning the level of residential development. The variable having the most influence on the location of the Somalis is the number of hospitals.

Table 6.4: Regression on locational dimension scores.

Table 6.4: Regression on locational dimension scores.						
Dependent Variable	SOMCEN					
N	1,667					
Multiple R	0.27					
Squared Multiple R	0.07					
Adjusted Squared Multiple R	0.07					
Standard Error of Estimate	0.62					
Effect	Coefficient	Standard Error	Std. Coefficient	Tolerance	t	p-value
CONSTANT	0.06	0.02	0.00	.	3.57	0.00
Dimension 1	0.13	0.02	0.21	1.00	8.66	0.00
Dimension 2	0.01	0.02	0.02	1.00	0.83	0.41
Dimension 3	0.04	0.02	0.06	1.00	2.68	0.01
Dimension 4	0.07	0.02	0.10	1.00	4.33	0.00
Dimension 5	0.07	0.02	0.11	1.00	4.77	0.00
Dimension 6	-0.03	0.02	-0.04	1.00	-1.66	0.10
Dimension 7	0.01	0.02	0.01	1.00	0.47	0.64
Dimension 8	0.01	0.02	0.01	1.00	0.43	0.67
Dimension 9	-0.01	0.02	-0.01	1.00	-0.35	0.72

Table 6.5: PCR results - locational determinants.

Order	Variables:	Reconstituted Coefficients
1	Number of hospitals	0.066
2	Total population	0.063
3	Number of physicians	0.047
4	Percent of household - family	-0.041
5	Estimated per capita number of jobs for the county	0.039
6	Population density (square mile)	-0.030
7	Percent of the population foreign-born entering between 1990 and 2000	0.027
8	Average months on waiting list among admissions	-0.026
9	Number of units under contract for federal subsidy and available for occupancy	-0.026
10	Percent of households with 3 + bedrooms	-0.025
11	TANF Benefits Per Poor Person	0.025
12	Average wage per job for the county	0.023
13	Muslim adherence rate	0.022
14	Median rent asked	0.018
15	The unemployment rate for the county	-0.018
16	Percent of population voting Democrat	0.017
17	Average utility allowance among households who have it	-0.016
18	Crime per 1000 persons	0.014
19	median age of the population	-0.013
20	Percent of the population white	-0.012
21	Number of climate events causing more than \$50,000 in damages.	0.012
22	FSP Benefits Per Poor Person	0.008
23	Percent of the population black	0.008
24	Median real estate taxes	0.007
25	Vacancy rate for rental units	-0.006
26	Percent of persons insured	0.006
27	FSP Participation Per Poor Person	0.005
28	Percent of the population in poverty	-0.004
29	Infant mortality rate	-0.002
30	Drop-out rate for teens 16-19	-0.002

This is followed by the total population and the number of physician variables. While these are Dimension 1 variables referencing residential development, the hospital and physician variables can also be taken to represent a healthcare dynamic. The healthcare theme for the top variables can be explained by the refugee category under which the vast majority of Somalis enter. One of the main concerns of the resettlement program is that the refugees have access to healthcare facilities because of the documented trauma – both mental and physical – they have endured. Thus, VOLAGS tend to place emphasis on locations with proper medical facilities in their resettlement decisions. The healthcare related variables are not the only variables in this table that can be attributed to the effects of refugee resettlement agendas – nearly all variables in the top half of this table can be linked to an idealized attribute of a refugee resettlement community. For example, the next two variables at the top of the list having the strongest impact on Somali locations are percent of households that are family households and per capita number of jobs. The main goal of refugee resettlement is the facilitation of self-sufficiency, so communities with an adequate number of jobs is paramount. Thus the per capita number of jobs is positively associated with Somali locations; however, family households are not. This can also be explained through the resettlement process. Most of the refugees are resettled in close proximity to the local agency responsible for their well-being – this is typically in central cities where the percentage of family households are low as opposed to outer lying suburban areas. The top half of Table 6.5 has other variables referring to housing such as the percent of households with 3+ bedrooms which is also negatively associated with the Somali distribution. This can also be explained as a result of the resettlement process and the central city location. It would not be uncommon to resettle the Somali in public housing projects within the city limits as was the case with the Somalis in Columbus – the vast majority were initially resettled in the Linden projects

which at the time was predominantly African American. In many other instances, large numbers are resettled in low income apartment complexes – as more and more are resettled in these apartments, the Somali population quickly becomes the resident majority. Most of these buildings are not family oriented because they are mainly efficiencies, and one-or-two bedrooms.

The table is also dominated by variables such as subsidized housing available for occupancy and subsidized housing waiting lists. The negative association and the central city explanation of the aforementioned housing variables can be applied here as well. Another variable occupying a position of high importance is the percent of recently arrived foreign-born. Again, this can be contributed to the resettlement process of locating the refugees within the city – not only the Somali, but also refugees from other countries. The next couple of variables, even though they hold less importance than the variables already mentioned, still have a strong influence on the location of Somalis. For example, the temporary assistance for needy families benefit variable – an idealized variable for resettlement communities. This also applies to the unemployment variable to which there is a negative association. There is also the median rent asked variable which can be explained by a central city location. One interesting variable found to have a strong influence as a Somali locational determinant is the Muslim adherence rate variable. The overwhelming majority of Somali adhere to the Muslim faith, but its placement in the table suggests that many other factors take precedence.

The second half of the variables on the table, although holding less importance, still tells a lot about the Somali distribution. These variables include factors such as crime, median age, poverty, welfare benefits, and the percent of the population black and white. While the Somali

distribution is negatively associated with variables like poverty, infant mortality, and drop-out rates, it is positively associated with several welfare variables and crime. In addition, while the Somali distribution is positively associated with the percent of the population that is black (which can be linked to the resettlement practice of resettling Somalis in close proximity to African Americans), it is negatively associated with the percent of the population that is white – a variable that held more importance in the table. Many of the variables seem to work in opposition to one another with respect to the negative or positive influence they have on the location of the Somali, but this can be explained by the spatial location of Somalis within the urban environment – more specifically, within central cities. When considering the nature of some of the variables and the direction of association – this leads me to conclude that the distribution of the Somali was still heavily influenced by the locations the refugee resettlement organizations established. This conclusion is logical when considering that the data was from a period when the Somali could have been still considered as “new” to America. The visible Somali flow into this country began in the early 1990s, but large scale entry did not occur until after the year 2000 – all data used in this analysis was for the year 2000. Table 6.5 revealed that the Somali locations were positively associated with the welfare variables, but negatively associated with variables such as poverty and unemployment. Their distribution was positively associated with new foreign-born, blacks, and crime but negatively associated with whites, family households, and family type housing. With this group being “new” to America, the contrast in the variables could not be attributed to ethnic enclaves – during this period the Somali population would have been in the process of enclave building. Thus, a plausible conclusion is that the determinants of Somali location at this point in time were resettlement community related. In order to facilitate rapid self-sufficiency, VOLAGS resettle refugees in places where

the communities can absorb the influx. These places are typified by low unemployment rates, low poverty, generous welfare systems, and the availability of jobs, and the availability of housing. In a spatial context, the VOLAGS typically resettle refugees in central areas that are characterized by a higher proportion of blacks, a low proportion of whites, a high degree of new foreign-born, and a younger population. Housing is available, but the amenities are rarely family oriented in that they are typically one to two bedroom apartments that are, in many instances, not subsidized by the federal government, but rather by the local or state governments. Given the characteristics of resettlement communities, we can explain most – if not all – of the variables in the table affecting the Somali distribution both negatively and positively.

Identification of Somali Migration Determinants

The results for the identification of migration determinants are found in Tables 6.6, 6.7, and 6.8. In a similar fashion like the last section, Table 6.6 shows the results of nine orthogonal dimensions extracted during the PCA portion of the PCR and their corresponding variables with the high loadings (>0.6). These nine dimensions combined accounted for 71.1 percent of the total variance in the dataset. These are dimensions associated with Somali migration and the dimension that accounts for the greatest amount of variability in the dataset (12.2 percent) is Dimension 1 – which was also named “Level of Residential Development” much like in the last section because many of the variables with high loadings was associated with the residents of the migration destination. The variables in question include population size, number of hospitals and physicians. The important variable to note in this first dimension, however, is the “clan diversity” variable.

TABLE 6.6: PCA Migration determinants - dimensions, loadings, and variance (N=1667).

Dimension 1: Level of Residential Development (12.24%)		Dimension 2: Welfare Generosity (7.21%)	
Total population	0.915	FSP Participation Per Poor Person	0.913
Number of hospitals	0.896	FSP Benefits Per Poor Person	0.907
Number of physicians	0.851		
Clan diversity	0.671		
Dimension 3: New Immigrant Attraction (4.09%)		Dimension 4: Regional Economic Effects (10.52%)	
Percent of the population foreign-born entering between 1990 and 2000	-0.670	Median rent asked	0.736
		Median real estate taxes	0.724
		Average wage per job for the county	0.644
		Vacancy rate for rental units	-0.707
Dimension 5: Housing Availability (6.92%)		Dimension 6: Regional Employment Effects (9.63%)	
Number of open units under contract for federal subsidy	0.908	Percent of the population in poverty	0.748
Population density (square mile)	0.906	The unemployment rate for the county	0.692
		Percent of persons insured	-0.821
Dimension 7: Family Accommodations (6.48%)		Dimension 8: Racial Demographic Effects (8.48%)	
Percent of households: 3 + bedrooms	-0.644	Percent of the population black	0.898
Percent of households: family	-0.878	Infant mortality rate	0.786
		Percent of the population white	-0.734
Dimension 9: Criminal Propensity (5.49%)			
Crime per 1000 persons	0.647		
Median age of the population	-0.562		

This variable was based on the Simpson Index of Diversity calculated at the county level. While most of the dimensions and variables were similar to that seen in Table 6.3, there were some differences noted. For example, Dimension 3 – the “New Immigrants Attraction” dimension lost two of its variables which now formed their own dimension requiring a new label. The crime and median age variables occupy Dimension 9 which was labeled “Criminal Propensity.” Dimensions 3 and 9 account for the least amount of variation (4.09 and 5.49 percent respectively) found in the dataset. An additional change includes the variable that remained in Dimension 3 – percent of the foreign-born recently arrived. This foreign-born variable is no longer positive – it is now negative in this model. This could be indicative of a change whereby the Somali migrants are moving away from the contemporary immigrant receiving areas to areas where the immigrants are more established. The final major change noted occurred with the “Regional Economic Effects” dimension which expanded. The “Regional Economic Effects” theme now occupies Dimension 4 (formerly Dimension 5) and it accounted for the second largest amount of variation (10.52 percent) in the dataset. Dimension 4 now contains the median rent and median real estate tax variables – both are positive and both share a relatively equal high loading. The “Family Accommodations” theme that used to occupy Dimension 4 now occupies Dimension 7.

Table 6.7 contains the information pertaining to the regression on the PCA scores from our nine dimensions. The analysis in this instance was quite different from the analysis performed on the PCA for the locational determinants. First of all, the R^2 is much higher – though the concern is not with producing the highest coefficient of determination. Secondly, there were only two dimensions that were found to be not significant – Dimensions 6 (Regional

Employment Effects) and 8 (Racial Demographic Effects). The effect of the dimensions that were found to be not significant is evident in the ordering of their variable's reconstituted coefficients in Table 6.8. In the table, with the exception of one, the variables belonging to the dimensions that were found to be not significant occupy a place at the bottom of the ordered reconstituted coefficients. Again, the tolerance levels for all dimensions were impeccable.

Table 6.8 contains the results for the reconstituted coefficients for the Somali migration determinants. As evident in the table, most of the "Residential Development" variables are not as influential as they were in the locational model. An ordering of the coefficients indicate that those variables pertaining to the Somali and the recently arrived foreign-born dominate. According to the table, Somali migrants are most influenced by destinations with existing Somali populations. Secondly, the migrants are influenced by destinations characterized by diverse clan-family mixtures. This result provides evidence that runs in opposition to my overall beliefs about the behavior that would be displayed by the Somali migrants. Even though I hypothesized that clan membership heavily influences the migration of the Somali, in this particular instance, my hypothesis was that the migration would be characterized by movement to areas where the level of diversity was low. Thus, I expected a negative impact for clan diversity variable. Again, it must be stated that the data is from a period before the bulk of the present Somali population arrived – a period of initial enclave building such as in places like Columbus, Ohio and Minneapolis, Minnesota. This period of enclave building is supported by the results of the city diversity analysis which showed the increase over time.

Table 6.7: Regression on migration dimension scores.

Table 6.7: Regression on migration dimension scores.						
Dependent Variable	PSOMMIG					
N	1,667					
Multiple R	0.64					
Squared Multiple R	0.41					
Adjusted Squared Multiple R	0.41					
Standard Error of Estimate	0.53					
Effect	Coefficient	Standard Error	Std. Coefficient	Tolerance	t	p-value
CONSTANT	0.05	0.01	0.00	.	4.13	0.00
Dimension 1	0.26	0.01	0.39	1.00	20.36	0.00
Dimension 2	0.07	0.01	0.09	1.00	4.99	0.00
Dimension 3	-0.27	0.01	-0.39	1.00	-20.63	0.00
Dimension 4	0.09	0.01	0.13	1.00	6.61	0.00
Dimension 5	-0.11	0.01	-0.16	1.00	-8.61	0.00
Dimension 6	-0.02	0.01	-0.03	1.00	-1.63	0.10
Dimension 7	0.12	0.01	0.18	1.00	9.28	0.00
Dimension 8	0.02	0.01	0.03	1.00	1.39	0.17
Dimension 9	-0.11	0.01	-0.16	1.00	-8.22	0.00

Numerous differences were noted in Table 6.8 and intermittently, I will highlight some differences between Tables 6.5 and 6.8 because they represent two different spatial aspects of the Somali population – determinants that reflect where they *were* (Table 6.5) and determinants that reflect where they *wanted to be* as indicated with the migrations (Table 6.8). Many of the variables associated with the “Residential Development” dimension are down in the order of the coefficients indicating that they hold less importance for the migrants. The new foreign-born variable, however, moved up in its importance to the number three position in the coefficient ordering – this could be explained by the attractiveness of the growing enclaves. The fourth most influential variable – the climate variable – has also displayed a marked change. Not only has it become more important by moving up to a higher position in the table, it now has a negative association with the Somali migrants. This translates into an avoidance of destinations where there is a plethora of climatic events causing more than \$50,000 in damages. The research done on Somalis in the United States typically focuses on race and assimilation, thus – to this researcher’s knowledge – there has been little or nothing written about the relationship (if any) between the Somalis and the climate here in the United States. This research has therefore established a link between the migration Somali and the avoidance of adverse climate conditions.

There are a number of other important differences. First, there was a difference noticed in the race related variables for percent black and white at the migrant destinations. Both dropped in the coefficient ordering which indicates less emphasis placed on racial demographics. In addition, the Somali migrants now exhibit a positive association with the percent of the population white.

Table 6.8: PCR results - migration determinants.

Order	Variable	Reconstituted Coefficient
1	Somali population	0.309
2	Clan diversity	0.198
3	Percent of the population foreign-born entering between 1990 and 2000	0.172
4	Number of climate events causing more than \$50,000 in damages.	-0.125
5	Population density (square mile)	-0.106
6	Average utility allowance among households who have it	-0.106
7	Number of open units under contract for federal subsidy	-0.105
8	Crime per 1000 persons	-0.100
9	Total population	0.086
10	Average months on waiting list among admissions	-0.086
11	The unemployment rate for the county	-0.074
12	Percent of households: family	-0.072
13	Vacancy rate for rental units	-0.072
14	Number of hospitals	0.068
15	TANF Benefits Per Poor Person	0.057
16	Median real estate taxes	-0.057
17	Drop-out rate for teens 16-19	0.056
18	FSP Participation Per Poor Person	0.054
19	Number of physicians	0.053
20	FSP Benefits Per Poor Person	0.037
21	Percent of households: 3 + bedrooms	-0.031
22	The estimated per capita number of jobs for the county	0.027
23	median age of the population	0.016
24	Percent of persons insured	0.013
25	Infant mortality rate	0.012
26	Percent of the population black	0.010
27	Percent of population voting Democrat	0.006
28	Percent of the population white	0.003
29	Muslim adherence rate	0.003
30	Median rent asked	-0.003
31	Percent of the population in poverty	-0.002
32	Average wage per job for the county	-0.002

This positive association with the white population could be an indication of the increase in control the Somali now exercise in their destination choice versus the little control they had upon initial resettlement in the United States. Secondly, an important difference was noticed with the “Criminal Propensity” dimension. While the migrant’s destination crime rate increased in importance, it also became negatively associated with the Somali migrants. In addition, the age variable – while decreasing in importance – became positively associated with the migrant destinations. The differences seen in these two variables could serve as an indication that the Somali are finding older, more stable neighborhoods in their migration. One repeated reason the Somali secondary migrants gave for leaving Atlanta, Georgia was that Atlanta was not safe and Lewiston, Maine was.

The final important difference concerns the variables associated with welfare. All of the welfare variables – TANF and FSP variables – are now clustered in the middle of the table. In table 6.5, the TANF occupied a position that reflected more importance and the FSP variables displayed low importance. The increased importance of the FSP variables can be interpreted as a reflection of what occurs when refugees leave their initial resettlement community – their benefits do not follow them to their migration destination. The elevation of the importance of the FSP variables could indicate their value as a replacement for the loss of the resettlement assistance. While the overall importance of the welfare variables increased, variables associated with employment decreased. The per capita number of jobs and the average wage variables displayed extreme decreases in importance for the migrants – but the unemployment variable stayed relatively the same. The polarization between the employment and welfare variables can

be interpreted as lending support to the welfare magnet hypothesis whereby locations with better welfare benefits were actively sought out.

The results revealed in this portion of the research leads to the conclusion that first and foremost, Somali migrants were heavily influenced by the presence of other Somali at the destination spots. The results also suggest that while the clan variable was an important determinant, it was the diversity of clans that served as the attraction for the Somali migrants. This revelation works counter to my hypothesis that the places sought out would be places with low diversity indicating a low number of clans or no clans. The migration destinations were associated with job surpluses, low unemployment, and low poverty; but they were also associated with a healthy welfare system. From the results, the health of the welfare system held more importance than the employment aspects of the destination. The migrant destinations were also characterized as being racially diverse, being relatively safe, and having an older population.

Determination of Cities Associated with Specific Clans

The objective of this step was to empirically determine if there were cities in the United States specific to certain clans. To answer this question and to paint a broader picture of the Somali secondary migrations, I drew upon qualitative data derived from surveys, interviews, and participant observation. It was my hypothesis that with the increased dispersion of Somalis within the United States, some cities / towns were becoming associated with specific clans.

Organization Surveys

To determine if there were cities where specific clans dominated, I used web-based surveys sent to Somali organizations as well as to voluntary agencies. In all, over 254 emails were sent out inviting the organizations to participate in this research study. Forty seven of these emails were returned as “undeliverable” and twelve were returned as “out of office” notifications. Thus, potentially one hundred and ninety-five emails were delivered with the invitation. Out of those potentially delivered, seven organizations responded by participating in the survey for a response rate of 3.6 percent. The cities in which the responses came from include: Philadelphia, Grand Rapids, Denver, Chicago, Omaha, New Haven, and Kansas City. With such a small response rate, generalizations cannot be made about the target population without the introduction of severe bias due to the lack of representation. Thus, I could not establish if certain cities were becoming associated with specific Somali clans. The responses of the organizations that did participate, however, are provided for reference purposes in Table 6.9. The thing to note from this table is the question pertaining to the self-sufficiency of secondary migrants and the clan to which secondary migrants belonged. According to the responses, the majority of the agencies received Somali secondary migrants, but they did not know the specific group to which these Somalis belonged. In addition, the majority of the organizations that did respond felt that the Somali secondary migrants they received were not self-sufficient. This is an issue that was addressed earlier in this dissertation in reference to the Somali secondary migrations to Lewiston, Columbus, and Emporia. The reception of secondary migrants who are not self-sufficient creates additional strain on the resettlement agencies they seek out for help because the agencies are un-prepared for their arrival.

Table 6.9: Organization survey results.	
Survey Questions	Percent of Respondents
Does your agency provide services to Somali refugees?	
Yes	85.7
No	14.9
If your agency services Somali refugees, which Somali clan/ethnic group do you believe make up the majority serviced by your agency:	
Darood	14.5
Somali Bantu	28.6
Ogadeni (Darood)	14.3
Unknown	42.6
Does your agency receive Somali secondary migrants?	
Yes	57.1
No	42.9
If your agency receives Somali secondary migrants, do you know if they are from a specific Somali clan/ethnic group?	
I don't know	71.4
No	14.3
No answer	14.3
If your agency provides services for Somali secondary migrants, are they self-sufficient when they arrive?	
No	57.1
Maybe	14.3
No Answer	28.6
If your agency provides services for Somali refugees, how would you characterize them?	
No different to resettle than other refugees.	14.5
Harder to resettle than other refugees.	42.6
Easier to resettle than other refugees.	14.3
Resettlement varies according to the Somali clan/ethnic group.	28.6

Somali Migrant Surveys

The issue of clan appeared to elicit mixed feelings among those who participated in the survey – some were hesitant to answer the question, others were extremely assertive about answering the question. Another issue encountered with the survey process was getting subjects to take the survey. While forty-eight surveys were completed, for every one of the surveys taken by the respondents, there were anywhere between three and seven rejections – many occurring once the topic and the title page of the survey was read. This reaction was expected however, given the sensitive nature of the topic and my role as an outsider asking for information concerning the topic. The statistical summary for those that participated in the survey are listed in Table 6.10.

The first round of questions from this survey is listed in Table 6.11. This table contains the responses to questions concerning the reasons why the subjects decided to migrate to Columbus. The answers were arranged in multiple choice format. The first question, and the most important, was *why* did the subjects decide to migrate to Columbus. The answers to this question indicated that there are two primary reasons why the subjects decided to migrate to Columbus. The most prevalent reason for the migration was to start a job (31.3 percent); the second reason was to find a job (27.1 percent). Thus the motivation was economic. While these answers may seem similar, they are contingent on two different concepts. Moving to start a new job in a new city infers security at the end of the move – moving to find a job holds no guarantee of financial support suggesting some other support system may be available to the migrant.

Table 6.10: Somali respondent background (n=48).			
Country of origin:	Percent of Respondents	Marital status:	Percent of Respondents
Ethiopia	06.3	Married	35.4
Kenya	10.4	Single	62.5
Somalia	83.3	Widowed	02.1
Sex:		Clan Family:	
Male	62.5	Darood	29.2
Female	37.5	Hawiye	14.6
Age bracket:			
18 - 24	14.6	Isaaq	08.3
25 - 29	39.6	Rahanweyn	04.2
30 - 34	35.4	None	16.7
35 - 39	08.3	Other	25.0
40 - 44	02.1	No answer	02.1
		Secondary migrant	
		Yes	89.6
		No	10.4

Table 6.11: Reason for migrating.			
Survey Question:	Answer:	Count	Percent
If you migrated from another city, please choose from the items below, the one that most applies as a reason for your migration:	To start a job	15	31.3
	To find a job	13	27.1
	To join immediate family	4	08.3
	To join fellow kinsmen	3	06.3
	Other	8	16.7
	No Answer	5	10.4
	Total	48	100.0
Would religion ever serve (or has served) as a primary reason for you to migrate?	Yes	1	02.1
	No	46	95.8
	No Answer	1	02.1
	Total	48	100.0
Would kinship / clan ever serve (or has served) as a primary reason for you to migrate?	Yes	12	25.0
	No	35	72.9
	No Answer	1	02.1
	Total	48	100.0

Support systems like family and kinsmen were included in the answer choices, however, less than 9 percent of the respondents on each account chose these systems as their reason for migrating.

The second question of major importance from this grouping involved the influence of religion as a reason to migrate – in 2006 it was estimated that nearly all of the Somali were Sunni Muslim (Akiwumi and Estaville 2009). According to 95.8 percent of the respondents from my survey, religion would never serve as a primary reason to migrate. The response might seem shocking given the major role that religion plays in the life of Somalis – both home and abroad; however, this response seems credible when combined with information received during an interview with one of the gatekeepers in the Somali community. During this interview, the question arose about the role of religion in the decision for Somalis to embark on secondary migrations – the interviewee responded by stating that religion would never serve as a primary reason for secondary migrations because Somalis would and could prey no matter where they are located, thus religion would never be a primary reason to migrate (A. Mohamed 2010).

The third and crucial question from this group concerned extracting information as to whether or not clan would serve as a primary reason to migrate. At the root of my hypotheses are assertions that the migration of the Somali here in the United States was based on clan movements. Thus, establishing that Somali migrants embarked on secondary migrations to reconnect with fellow clansmen was one of the goals.

According to the responses on this question, nearly 73 percent of the respondents indicated that clan would never serve as a primary reason to migrate. There were some that declined to answer the question; however, 25 percent of the respondents did indicate that clan would serve as a primary motivator for migration. Those that indicated clan would serve as a primary reason did make comments which I recorded in writing on the survey forms. Many seemed to indicate that the choice was based on the connections and resources that could be provided by fellow clan members. Thus it was more a matter of social networking.

The next group of questions (Table 6.12) pertained to the strength several variables had – or would have – on the decision to migrate. Those variables that would serve as “very strong” reasons to migrate were a better job and better housing. Immediate family, clan or kinsmen, and better social services, on the other hand, would serve as “strong” influences on the decision to migrate. While the distinction between “strong” and “very strong” may seem trivial, the fact that there were substantial gaps for several questions between the percentage of respondents that chose one or the other shows that the distinction holds significant meaning for them. One area in which this distinction was very close to being similar, however, concerned the existence of better social services at the destination spot. According to the respondents, 41.7 percent indicated that better social services would serve as a “very strong” influence versus 45.8 percent indicating that it would be a “strong” influence. The question of religion was also incorporated into this group of questions. The responses for the religion question confirm what was discovered in the initial group of questions – religion would not serve as a reason to migrate. Nearly 88 percent of the respondents indicated that religion had – or would have – no strength in influencing their decision.

Table 6.12: Influences on the decision to migrate.			
Please indicate the strength of influence the following variables would (or have had) on your decision to migrate:			
Choice	Answer	Frequency	Percent
Better Job	Strong	12	25.0
	Very strong	36	75.0
Better Housing	None	3	6.3
	Strong	17	35.4
	Very strong	28	58.3
Kinsman / Clan	None	20	41.7
	Strong	25	52.1
	Very strong	3	6.3
Religion	None	42	87.5
	Strong	4	8.3
	No Answer	2	4.2
Immediate Family	None	4	8.3
	Strong	30	62.5
	Very strong	13	27.1
	No Answer	1	2.1
Better Social Service	None	6	12.5
	Strong	22	45.8
	Very strong	20	41.7

The final group of questions (Table 6.13) was incorporated to get a better sense of the respondent's migration support system or possible constraints. The majority of the migrants indicated that immediate family (39.6 percent) would be the primary source of economic and social support at the migration destination. Close to 92 percent indicated that they had relative living in the same city – so this accounts for the choice of relatives as the primary support givers. Many (33.3 percent) also indicated “Other” as a support, but the respondents did not elaborate on what or who this “Other” was. The choices were close to being split on the use of the government and the use of clan or fellow kinsmen as a support – 12.5 and 10.4 percent

respectively. The low figures are understandable in the case of the government – when refugees move from their initial areas of resettlement, the resettlement services provided by agencies do not follow them to their new destination in secondary migrations. The next questions concerned possible barriers to migration. This was a question of whether or not the dominance of another clan in a potential migration destination would prevent migration to that city.

Table 6.13: Support in migration.			
Question	Answer	Count	Percent
If you have migrated from, or intend to migrate to another city, who would you or have you depended on for economic and social support?	Immediate family	19	39.6
	U.S. Government	6	12.5
	Kinsmen/clan	5	10.4
	Other	16	33.3
	No Answer	2	4.2
Would you ever avoid moving to a city if you knew that a Somali clan/ethnic group (or any ethnic group) you are in conflict with have a large population there?	Yes	30	62.5
	No	17	35.4
	No Answer	1	2.1
I had relatives already living in the U.S. when I arrived.	False	16	33.3
	True	32	66.7
I have relatives residing in the same city.	False	4	8.3
	True	44	91.7
I experienced discrimination by white Americans.	False	6	12.5
	True	41	85.4
	No Answer	1	2.1
I experienced discrimination by African Americans.	False	14	29.2
	True	33	68.8
	No Answer	1	2.1

The vast majority (62.5 percent) indicated that it would serve as a deterrent. Again, comments were made by the respondents which had bearing on the question – many stated that the presence of those they were in conflict would not be a deterrent if they had adequate representation from their own kinsmen or clan. The final two questions from this group concerned the Somalis experience with racism. The respondents indicated that they experienced discrimination more from whites than from blacks. According to the survey, 85.4 percent indicated they experienced discrimination by white Americans versus 68.8 percent noting discrimination from black Americans. This question, like the other about conflicting clans, was incorporated as a way of identifying barriers to Somali migration.

The information extracted from the surveys provided valuable insight into the factors affecting Somali migration. Despite the surveys being conducted solely on those migrants in Columbus, the results could possibly apply to Somali secondary migrants in other cities. The reason for the use of the term “could” is because the level of representation is unknown. At the time of the surveys, during an interview with one of the gatekeepers, the interviewee commented that close to 95 percent of the Somalis in Columbus were secondary migrants (A. Mohamed 2010). However, the statement could not be backed up by any known database pertaining to either the number of Somali let alone the number of Somali secondary migrants in Columbus. Thus, with an unknown population size, in addition to the subjects being a hidden population, the uncertainty of representation is a constant. Therefore, the results cannot be generalized to the entire Somali secondary migrant population.

CHAPTER 7: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The goal of this research was to gain insight into the Somali refugee population in the United States by examining several research questions. The first research question pertained to the determination of whether or not the cities in which the Somali were initially resettled diversified with respect to the different clan-families. The results from the first test revealed the answer to be yes – the Simpson Index of Diversity applied to the 1990 to 2009 admission period yielded an average index of 0.578 which indicated a high level of diversity. This result confirmed my first hypothesis that the resettlement cities were highly diversified. I believed that it was this diversification that would lead the Somalis to disperse and regroup in frontier cities and towns based on clan membership. Thus, my second research question was the determination of Somali dispersion from their sites of initial resettlement. My second hypothesis was confirmed with the positive results of the relative clustering index which indicated that the Somali were more clustered in the locations they were sent to than the locations they were actually recorded as being at. The third step of the research and the third research question involved the determination of factors associated with the distribution of the Somali across the United States. It was found that the variables associated with the Somali distribution from the PCR were remarkably similar to the ideal variables that characterize official resettlement cities. As it was suggested, the most plausible explanation for the similarities between the Somali distribution and the resettlement city characteristics was that – the date range for the data coincides with a period of time in which the Somali would have been considered “new” to this country. This would have been a time of enclave building in places such as Columbus, OH and Minneapolis, MN. This was also at a time prior to the entry of the bulk of the Somali population. Thus the conclusion was that by the year 2000, most of the Somali population that was present in

the United States was still confined – or limited – to resettlement locations established by the Office of Refugee Resettlement. The Somali that left their initial resettlement communities were not all destined for new frontier communities as evident from some of the analysis performed in this dissertation – many embarked on secondary migrations to ethnic clusters that were in the growth process which is seen in the results of the fourth step of this research. One of the resettlement agency Program Managers from Grand Rapids, MI who responded to the organization survey indicated that nearly 80 percent of the Somalis that they resettled embarked on secondary migrations to other cities soon after their arrival. The destination communities for most were in the Minneapolis area, but a small minority also emigrated to Dallas, TX and Knoxville, TN.

The fourth step and the fourth research question involved the determination of factors associated with the Somali migrant destinations. The variables that held the most importance, as determined from the second PCR, were those that were specific to the Somali – the existence of a Somali community and the existence of a Somali community characterized by a diverse mixture of clans-families. I had originally hypothesized that migrations would be to areas with low clan diversity; this assumption was based on the on-going conflict that has plagued Somalia for the past two decades. The reasoning behind this assumption was the idea that the conflict between the clans would be transplanted to the countries of resettlement along with the refugees; .however, the opposite appears to be the case. In an American context, this lack of conflict – whether it is an illusion or not – can be explained by observations made by Darboe (2003). According to Darboe, clan tensions have lessened because Somalis are faced with more pressing social issues such as learning the English language, and working and raising children in a new

environment. Darboe called this collusion between clans “ethnogenesis” and suggested it was happening because Somalis of different clans live, work, and worship together (p.469). This notion was also reinforced in my interview with the resettlement staff worker in Columbus. During the interview, the question was raised concerning the presence of a variety of clans within the city and if the mixing rekindled the kind of hatred that was witnessed in Somalia. The interviewee indicated that “there is still animosity;” however, the animosity is not on the same level as it was in Somalia. She too went on to indicate that the “tribal groups here” have too much “other things” to worry about than old rivalries (Staff 2010).

While the destination communities were somewhat similar to those where the Somali initially resided on most aspects, subtle important differences were noted such as less emphasis on the residential development, an older population, and lower crime rates. Differences were also seen in the racial demographics – it displayed decreasing importance. The Somali destinations were positively associated not only with blacks now, but with whites as well. This was best described as a reflection on the greater freedom the secondary migrants now exercise with respect to their migration destinations. Within the resettlement process, refugees have a minor amount of control over where they are sent with respect to their initial resettlement community. However, once they enter the United States, their outmigration from that community – because they are not under any obligations (moral or legal) to stay – is a reflection of the introduction of the freedom of choice into their decision making process with respect to potential destinations. The most plausible explanation for the nature and magnitude of their positive association with African Americans in their initial communities rests with the actions of the VOLAGS. As seen in many cases, once the Somali arrive at their initial resettlement community,

they are often settled into areas predominantly occupied by African Americans. This placement trend was noted to be the case in Columbus. However, in their secondary migrations, the freedom of choice applies and this choice includes the ability to incorporate racial preferences into the migration decision. Based on the results of the analysis, this preference appears to be positively associated with the presence of a higher percentage of whites at the destination community when compared to the percentage at the originating community.

The last notable change occurred with the overall importance of the welfare variables. For the Somali migrants, variables associated with welfare increased in importance while variables associated with employment decreased in importance. This finding therefore lends support to research investigating the theory of welfare magnets. Again, this change in the importance of the welfare net at the migrant destinations could be linked to the loss of financial as well as other government benefits that occur when refugees leave their community of initial resettlement. However, the fact that the welfare variables were increasing in importance while at the same time the employment variables were decreasing serves to indicate that there is something else going on besides the loss of benefits – something that warrant more study.

The fifth research question involved the determination of cities associated with specific clans. This aspect of the research went unanswered because of the extremely low response rate to the survey invitations that went out to resettlement organizations across the country. The responses that were received were highly informative, but because of the sample size being non-representative, no generalization could be made from the results. However, the surveys conducted in Columbus on the Somali migrants provided sufficient material to answer the

remaining research questions. First, there was the research question pertaining to the determination of whether or not clan dominance in certain areas could affect the flow of migration. The answer to this question is *yes*. Even though this research was unable to definitively establish the existence of U.S. cities where specific clans dominate, from the surveys of the Somali migrants in Columbus, I was able to establish possible reactions if these cities existed in theory. To the question “Would you ever avoid moving to a city if you knew that a Somali clan/ethnic group (or any ethnic group) you are in conflict with have a large population there?” the Somali respondents (62.5 percent) overwhelmingly indicated that it would prevent their migration to that destination. Subsequent comments made by some of the respondents, however, revealed that if they had adequate representation from their own clan in that region, then it would not prevent their migration.

The remaining research question pertained to the determination of whether or not clan is related to Somali migrations more so than other socio-demographic variables. From this research, indicators point to an answer of *yes* – clan does have more influence than other socio-demographic factors. The association, however, is more involved than I had originally conceptualized. In Table 6.6, the clan variable was recorded in the first dimension which also happened to be the dimension that accounted for the greatest amount of variation in the migration data. Secondly, the clan variable obtained a position in Table 6.8 that indicated it exerted the second greatest amount of influence on Somali migration. The variable was based on diversity, thus looking at the bigger picture, the result can be interpreted in two different ways: (1) it was not the presence of a single clan, but rather the existence of a multitude of clans that

served as a lure for migrants; or (2) it was not the presences of a multitude of clans, but rather the presence of the migrant's clan in the multitude of clans that served as a lure.

The survey conducted in Columbus, however, does provide for a more definitive answer to the relationship between secondary migrants and clan. While only 6.3 percent of those surveyed indicated that joining fellow clansmen served as their reason for migrating, nearly 73 percent indicated that clan would never serve as a primary reason for migrating. However, 52 percent of the respondents would go on to indicate that clan would have a strong influence on their decision to migrate. Thus, from the data it is clear that clan would influence the migration process more so than other variables, but it would not serve as the primary factor for migrating. Clan in this case would serve more as a resource or an amenity – a support mechanism or social network that may or may not be in place at the destination spot. This statement is backed up further by the statement made from my interview with the resettlement agency staff worker:

You have whole families, families which go then into immediate families. From your immediate family, it goes to sub-clan all the way to tribal. So when we come here, we are family, the whole tribe is. That is how we stay connected, that is how you help each other – by tribe. If you come here, your tribe will do all the necessary things that you need, so tribal is big. You want a better place to live, you bring your whole tribe so you can be a community – it's your family. (Staff 2010)

In conclusion, the purpose of this research was to contribute valuable information to the growing body of knowledge on Somalis living in the United States. This line of research, however, did not focus on the common theme of Somali identity. Rather, the focus of this research was on the spatial distribution of the Somali in this country of resettlement and the influence that clan (a highly sensitive issue to the Somali) may have on that distribution. As evident from the summary in the preceding paragraphs, both quantitative and qualitative methods were applied in order to answer specific research questions pertaining not only to the

determinants of where the Somalis were *at* in the resettlement, but also to the determinants of where they were *going* in their secondary migrations and *why*. The quantitative methods used found acceptance for hypotheses for research questions 1 and 2. The quantitative methods also identified the locational and migration determinants sought for research questions 3 and 4. Research question 5, however, relied on qualitative data, which included surveys, participant observation and unstructured interviews. This was the data collected from the case study of the Somalis in Columbus. And while the research based on quantitative analyses for a study area covering the United States resulted in reliable results, the analysis for research question 5 – which was based on qualitative methods – yielded results that could not be generalized to the entire Somali migrant population and thus requires further study.

The Somali have maintained a position in the top ten refugee sending countries for more than a decade and until the ongoing conflict in Somalia is brought to an end, Somalia is likely to remain a top contributor to the refugee flow into the United States. Within the context of this dissertation, three examples were given in which Somali migrations caught the destination communities by surprise and in need of extra financial assistance to help settle the secondary migrants. This was just three examples, but this same event has occurred and is continuing to occur in numerous communities throughout the United States. Thus, it is imperative that the motivations behind Somali secondary migrations be understood because the ongoing conflict and the sustained refugee flow is likely to result in a continuation of these secondary migration events as more and more Somali are admitted. This research yielded non-generalizable results from the qualitative survey portion designed to elicit information from VOLAGS because of a low response rate. It is therefore also suggested that further research into the relationship

between the Somali and the VOLAGS in the initial resettlement communities be conducted to examine possible procedural changes that can be made to make the resettlement process more efficient or more responsive to the needs of the Somali. Further research may lead to findings that could possibly diminish or even prevent the need for Somalis to embark on secondary migrations.

APPENDIX

Table A.1: Partial listing of the Darood clan-family

DAROOD		
Geri	Harti	(Harti con't)
<i>Issak Hassan</i>	<i>Warsangali</i>	Reer Yusuf of Garad Mohamoud
<i>Abayoonis Hassan,</i> <i>Omer Hassan</i> <i>Ika Hume Geri</i>	Aadan Siciid Reer Saalax Reer Muuse Reer Qaasim	Riighaye Waqadsiinye Warlabe Husein Iise
Marehan <i>Howrarsame</i> <i>Reer Xasan</i> <i>Reer Faarax Ugaas</i> <i>Wagardhac</i> <i>Celi</i> <i>Calidheere</i>	Adan Yaqub Ahmed Dhegawayn Bah Habar Osmaan Bah Habar Hasan Bah Idoor Bah Ogayslabe Bah Yabare	<i>Dhulbahante</i> Xuseen Saciid Muuse Saciid Axmed Saciid <i>Dashiishe</i> Reer Saleebaan Reer Ugaas
Awrtable <i>Reer Cilmi Maxamed</i>	Bihina Guuleed Aamir Of Garad	Reer Boqor Reer Sakariye
Ogaden <i>Gumcadle</i> <i>Maxamed Subeer</i> <i>Abdalla</i> <i>Abudwaaq</i> <i>Maqaabul</i>	Mohamoud Cawramale Colmarabe Dubeyis Garad Liban (Tuure) Garwayne	Reer Xaaji Reer Fahiye Reer Isxaaq <i>Tiinle</i> <i>Kabtaanle</i>
Jidwaq <i>Bartire</i> <i>Absguul</i> <i>Yabaree</i>	Gobyawuud Ahmed Omar Hinjiye Idamoge	<i>Magalabe</i> <i>Majeerteen</i> Wabeeneeye Tabale
Leelkase <i>Maalismogge</i> <i>Muumin Aadan</i> <i>Mahamed Aadan</i> <i>Mohamud Ali</i> <i>Eyeh</i> <i>Fiqi Ismail</i> <i>Hassan Idiris</i> <i>Reer Ali Sheikh</i> <i>Suhurre</i> <i>Reer Awsalaat</i>	Jibrell Saiid Muhumud Ogayslabe Raage Ali Reer Omar Reer Faatax Reer Garaad Reer Mohamed Reer Saalah Reer Haaji Reer Yaasuf of Mohamud Omar	Siwaaqroon Reer Cumar Saleebaan Cali Ismail Musa Ugaar Abdirahem Reer Mahmoud Reer Bicydahan Jibraahiil Cali Nuux

Table A.2: Partial listing of Dir, Isaaq, Hawiye, and Rahanweyn clan-families.

DIR	HAWIYE	RAHANWEYN
Madahweyne, Dir	Abgaal	Digil
<i>Gariir</i>	Ajuran	<i>Garre</i>
<i>Gurgure</i>	Baadicate	<i>Bagadi</i>
<i>Guure</i>	Duduble	<i>Geledi</i>
<i>Barsuuq and Madigaan</i>	Fiqishini	<i>Dabarre</i>
<i>Layiile</i>	Jibade	<i>Jiido</i>
<i>Akisho</i>	Garre	<i>Shantacaleemood</i>
<i>Gorejinno</i>	Karanle	<i>Tunni</i>
<i>Dayle and Dalbis</i>	Kidir	<i>Irroole</i>
<i>Dheere Madaxweyne</i>	Garjante	Mirifle
<i>Reer Aw Said</i>	Gorgaarte	<i>Siyeed</i>
Mandaluug, Dir	Gugundhabe	Eelaay
<i>Gadabursi</i>	Habar Gidir	Bohoraad
Madoobe, Dir	Xawadle	Naasiye
Isse	Hiilebi	Geedfade
Mahe Dir	Hintire	Jiroon
<i>Maxamed Xiniiftire</i>	Hobay	Leysan
<i>Surre</i>	Iilawaay	Harin
ISAAQ	Kaariye	Macalinweyne
	Masare	Boqolhore
	Maxamad Gurgaarte	Qoomaal
Cimraan	Mayle Gurgaarte	Disoow
Tol Jecle	Moobleen	Eemid
<i>Reer Hassan</i>	Murusade	Yalaale
<i>Reer Hussein</i>	Raaranle	Heledi
Habar Awal	Sheekhaal	Harooow
<i>Sacad Muuse</i>	Silcis	Waanjaal
<i>Ciise Muuse</i>	Saxawle	Reer Dumaal
Ayoup	Ujeejeen	Garwaale
Arap	Wacdaan	<i>Sagaal</i>
Garhajis	Wadalaan	Hadame
<i>Eidagale</i>	Xaskul	Luwaay
<i>Habar Yoonis</i>		Geelidle
Habar Jeclo		Jilible
		Yantaar
		Hubeer
		Gasaargude
		Goobabweyn

Table A.3: Variables for locational determinants.

Aspect	Label	Data Source
1. Employment	wage	National Atlas of the United States
	jobs	
	unemp	
2. Public housing	subunt	Office of Policy Development and Research and HUD USER
	wait	
	utilall	
3. Public Assistance	fspart	US Department of Agriculture: Economic Research Services
	fsben	
	tanfben	
4. Crime	crm	National Atlas of the United States
5. Schools	doutr	The Annie E. Casey Foundation: Kids Count Data Center
6. Health	hosp	US Department of Health and Human Services
	ins	
	phys	
	mort	National Atlas of the United States
7. Climate	clmt	National Atlas of the United States
8. Population	pop00	American Factfinder
	pwhite	
	pblack	
	pfrbrn	
	mnage	
	ppov	
	pdense	
9. Households	fmlyhh	American Factfinder
	vac	
	3bed	
	mrent	
	mreal	
10. Political	party	Election Atlas
11. Religion	muslad	The Association of Religion Data Archives

Table A.4: Variables for migration determinants.

Aspect	Label	Data Source
1. Employment	wage	National Atlas of the United States
	jobs	
	unemp	
2. Public housing	subunt	Office of Policy Development and Research and HUD USER
	wait	
	utilall	
3. Public Assistance	fspart	US Department of Agriculture: Economic Research Services
	fsben	
	tanfben	
4. Crime	crm	National Atlas of the United States
5. Schools	doutr	The Annie E. Casey Foundation: Kids Count Data Center
6. Health	hosp	US Department of Health and Human Services
	ins	
	phys	
	mort	National Atlas of the United States
7. Climate	clmt	National Atlas of the United States
8. Population	pop00	American Factfinder
	somcen	
	pwhite	
	pblack	
	pfrbrn	
	mnage	
	ppov	
pdense		
9. Households	fmlyhh	American Factfinder
	vac	
	3bed	
	mrent	
	mreal	
10. Political	party	Election Atlas
11. Religion	muslad	The Association of Religion Data Archives
12. Clan	cland	WRAPS data

Table A.5: Survey for Columbus Somali

1	Please list your country and area of origin:	
	country:	
	area (city):	
2	Please indicate your sex:	
	a) Male	
	b) Female	
3	Please indicate your age bracket:	
	a) 18 - 24	
	b) 25 - 29	
	c) 30 - 34	
	d) 35 - 39	
	e) 40 - 44	
	f) 45+	
4	Please indicate your status:	
	a) Married	
	b) Single	
	c) Divorced	
	d) Widowed	
	e) Separated	
5	Do you have any children under the age of 18 that live with you?	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
6	Have you lived in any other U.S.cities prior to living in Columbus?	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
7	If you lived in other cities prior to Columbus, please list each city in order (up to five):	
	1)	4)
	2)	5)
	3)	
8	If you migrated from another city, please choose from the items below, the one that most applies as a reason for your migration:	
	a) To start a job	

Table A.5 (cont'd)

	b) To find a job					
	c) To join immediate family					
	d) To join fellow kinsmen					
	e) Other (please specify):					
9	Please indicate which of the following primary lineage groups you belong to:					
	a) Daarood					
	b) Digil					
	c) Dir					
	d) Hawiye					
	e) Isxaaq					
	f) Rahanwiin					
	g) None					
	h) Other (please specify):					
10	Please indicate the strength of influence the following variables would (or have had) on your decision to migrate:					
		very strong	strong	none	weak	very weak
	a) Better job					
	b) Better housing					
	c) Kinsmen / clan					
	d) Religion					
	e) Immediate family					
	f) Better social services					
11	Would religion ever serve (or has served) as a primary reason for you to migrate?					
	a) Yes					
	b) No					
	a) Yes					
	b) No					
13	If you have migrated from, or intend to migrate to another city, who would you or have you depended on for economic and social support?					
	b) U.S. Government					
	c) Kinsmen/clan					
	d) Other:					
14	Would you ever avoid moving to a city if you knew that a Somali clan/ethnic group (or any ethnic group) you are in conflict with have a large population there?					

Table A.5 (cont'd)

15	Year of arrival in the U.S.?		
16	Age at arrival in the U.S.?		
17	First city of residence in the U.S.?		
18	Duration of residence in first city?		
19	Duration of residence in last city?		
20	Aspect of U.S. most attractive?		
21	Principal problem faced since arriving in the U.S.?		
22	Who gave you the most help during your first six months?		
23	I had relatives already living in the U.S. when I arrived.	True	False
24	I have relatives residing in the same city.	True	False
25	I have relatives residing in other areas of the U.S.	True	False
26	I plan to become a U.S. citizen.	True	False
27	I experienced discrimination by white Americans.	True	False
28	I experienced discrimination by African Americans.	True	False
29	I believe there is inequalities in the opportunities in the U.S.	True	False
30	There is racial discrimination in the U.S.	True	False
31	American life weakens family	True	False
32	I have close friends that are not Somali	True	False
33	If you would like to elaborate or comment on the questions asked, please do so here:		

Table A.6: Somali Organization Survey Questions

1	In what year was your organization established?	
2	In what city and state is your organization located?	
	City:	State:
3	Does your organization have branches in other cities?	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
4	Does your organization receive U.S. government funding? (federal, state, and/or local)	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
5	If you answered "No" to the above question, do you feel your organization would operate better with U.S. government funding?	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
6	Does your organization serve groups other than Somali?	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
7	If you answered "Yes" to the above question, can you list up to three other groups?	
	1)	
	2)	
	3)	
8	Does your organization serve Somalis that have migrated to your area from other cities within the U.S.?	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
9	Are there multiple Somali clan/ethnic groups in your area?	
	a) Yes	
	b) No	
	c) I don't know	

Table A.6 (cont'd)

10	If there are multiple Somali clan/ethnic groups in your area, can you list up to four by their primary lineage group?
	1)
	2)
	3)
	4)
5) Don't know	
11	If there are multiple Somali clan/ethnic groups in your area, do they each have their own organization?
	a) Yes
	b) No
c) Don't know	
12	Is your organization primarily geared towards service and support for a specific Somali clan/ethnic group?
	a) Yes
	b) No
c) It depends (please explain):	
13	Does your organization help Somalis regardless of their clan/ethnic group?
	a) Yes
b) No	
14	Is your organization representative of the largest Somali clan/ethnic group in your area?
	a) Yes
	b) No
c) Don't know	
15	Has your organization witness a lot of movement amongst the Somalis that you service? (i.e. see a lot of the Somalis moving into and out of your area)
	a) Yes
b) No	
16	If you answered "Yes" to the above question, can you list the top 3 reasons, in order of importance, for their movement?
	1)
	2)
	3)
4) Not sure	

Table A.6 (cont'd)

17	If you noticed a lot of movement, can you list up to five U.S. cities the Somali migrants came from?
	1)
	2)
	3)
	4)
18	If you have any other comments or would like elaborate on any of the questions asked or want to share some insight on Somali migration practices; please feel free to use the space below to voice your opinion:

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