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Refugees: Systemic Challenges and Personal Stories

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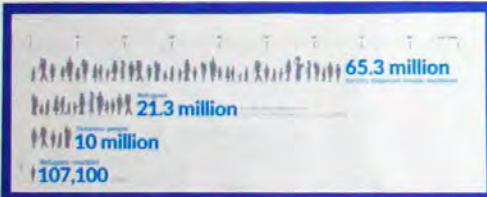
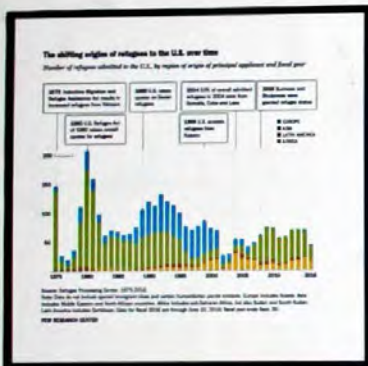
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DEFINITIONS

Refugees are persons fleeing armed conflict or persecution. Their situation is often so perilous and intense that they cross national borders to seek safety in nearby countries, and thus become internationally recognized as "refugees" with access to assistance from states, UNHCR, and other organizations. They are so recognized precisely because it is too dangerous for them to return home, and they need sanctuary elsewhere. These are people for whom denial of asylum has potentially deadly consequences.

Migrants choose to move not because of a direct threat of persecution or death, but mainly to improve their lives by finding work, or in some cases for education, family reunion, or other reasons. Unlike refugees who cannot safely return home, migrants face no such impediment to return. If they choose to return home, they will continue to receive the protection of their government.

An immigrant is someone from a foreign country who relocates to live in another country. They may or may not be citizens. Immigrants are subject to the laws of their adopted country. They may only come if they have work or a place to live. Immigrants are usually driven by economic factors, or they want to be close to family.



REFUGEES: SYSTEMIC CHALLENGES & PERSONAL STORIES

REFUGEES TAKE PART IN THE MOST RIGOROUS SCREENING PROCESS FOR ACCEPTANCE INTO THE U.S.

AVERAGE WAIT TIME: 18-24 MONTHS



53% of refugees worldwide came from three countries



THE REFUGEE VETTING PROCESS

Screenings involve these government agencies and take up to 36 months



MYTH: The refugee screening process isn't rigorous enough.

FACT: The hardest way to come to the U.S. is as a refugee.



IMMIGRATION BAN EXECUTIVE ORDER

January 27, 2017 - A Summary

- Suppression of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) for 120 days. Review, application and adjustment process to implement additional procedures.
- Encourage refugees come to the U.S. on the basis of religious-based persecution, provided that the refugee of the individual is a minority religion in the individual's country of nationality.
- Syrian refugees are determined to be the interest of the United States and will not be admitted until the time.
- More than 50,000 refugees entering in 2017 would be determined to the United States. (110,000 were sought for 2017, a decrease of 55%).
- Admission of refugees will be made on a case-by-case basis, in their discretion, but only so long as they determine that the admission of such individuals as refugees is in the national interest - including when the person is a refugee mostly in this country.
- A report on the progress of the directive of prohibition of entry made by individuals on the basis of religious-based persecution within 100 days and again at 200 days.
- Secretary of Homeland Security shall examine existing law to determine the extent to which State and local jurisdiction can have more involvement.

BLOCKED BY FEDERAL JUDGE 2/3/2017
EXECUTIVE ORDER MARCH 1, 2017

- Suppression of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) for 120 days. Review, application and adjustment process to implement additional procedures.
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CHANGES SUMMARIZED:
Removal of Section B & F, adds to section E to remove prohibition of "religious persecution".
Removal of Section C, prohibits block of Syrian refugees.

BLOCKED AGAIN 3/15/17

MYTHS VS. FACTS

Myth: Most refugees are men.

Fact: Over half of refugees worldwide are children.

Myth: Refugees are all Muslim.

Fact: Refugees come from diverse backgrounds. According to the U.S. Office of Admissions Refugee Processing Center, only 24,768 refugees who arrived between January 2016 and August 2016 were Muslim, while more than 30,000 were of Christian and other faiths.

Myth: Refugees are choosing to leave their country.

Fact: Refugees are forced to flee because of war and persecution.

Myth: Refugees are a drain on society.

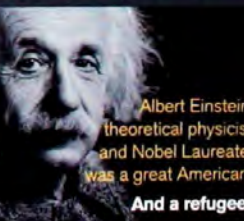
Fact: Refugees start business, pay taxes, and contribute to their communities. The vast majority of newly resettled refugees quickly find jobs, they spend money that helps local economies and send their children to school with the intent that they become productive members of their new communities.

Myth: Refugees are all from the Middle East.

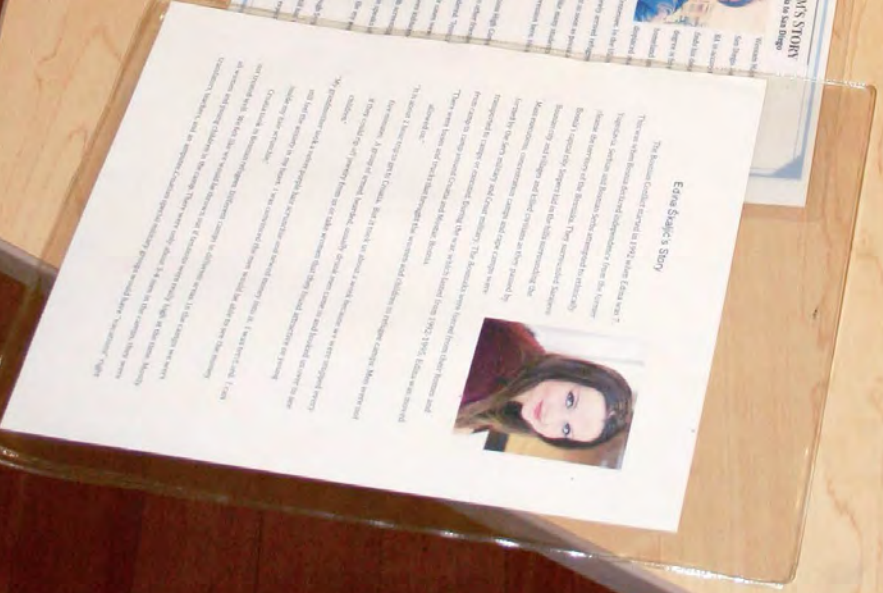
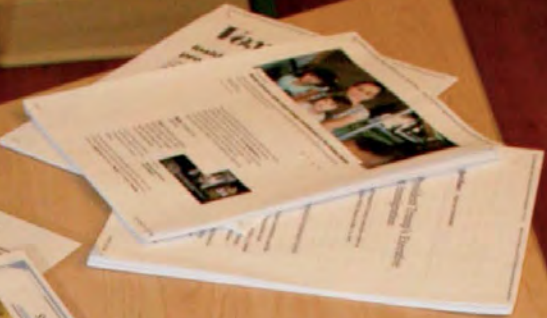
Fact: For the past decade, 27 percent of all refugees have been from Myanmar (also known as Burma), where conflict between several ethnic groups and the government continues to rage, making it the world's longest-running civil war. Bhutan, Iraq, Somalia, Congo and Afghanistan account for a significant portion of the total refugee population.

Anyone can be a refugee. Conflicts do not discriminate.
Adeline Ong
Former Manager at International Rescue Committee, Kuala Lumpur

Please make an effort to befriend refugees who are already present here and don't use language barriers as an excuse. The amazing how creative one can get when we learn our speech to communicate. Reach out to a refugee agency. Write to one in an immigration detention center. Their lives did not begin or end with trauma or loss. They have unique skills and strengths and flaws like everyone else and can teach us as much as much as we can teach them with our shared presence and unique experiences.
Kasma Rana
Junia Menta Health Counselor (Work Experience with Refugees)



Choose Humanity
Rescue.org

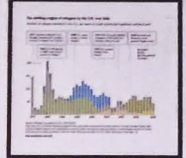


DEFINITIONS

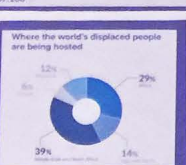
There are three categories of people who are considered refugees: 1. Those who are fleeing their home country because of persecution, war, or violence. 2. Those who are fleeing their home country because of a well-founded fear of persecution. 3. Those who are fleeing their home country because of a well-founded fear of violence.

Refugees are people who have been forced to leave their country because of persecution, war, or violence. They are often fleeing their home country because of a well-founded fear of persecution or violence.

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There are 55.3 million refugees in the world. This is a significant number, especially when compared to the total population of the world, which is approximately 7 billion.



REFUGEES: SYSTEMIC CHALLENGES & PERSONAL STORIES

REFUGEES TAKE PART IN THE MOST RIGOROUS SCREENING PROCESS FOR ACCEPTANCE INTO THE U.S.

Refugees must pass a rigorous screening process to be accepted into the U.S. This process includes a thorough background check, a medical examination, and a psychological evaluation.



The refugee vetting process is a rigorous and thorough process that ensures the safety and security of the U.S. It includes a thorough background check, a medical examination, and a psychological evaluation.



THE REFUGEE VETTING PROCESS



MYTH: The refugee screening process isn't rigorous enough.

FACT: The hardest way to come to the U.S. is as a refugee.



IMMIGRATION BAN EXECUTIVE ORDER

Executive Order 13769, signed by President Trump on January 25, 2017, bans the entry of refugees and certain immigrants from the U.S. The order states that the U.S. will only accept refugees who are referred by the U.S. government and who have been vetted by the U.S. government.

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Myth: Refugees are coming to harm their country.

Fact: Refugees are fleeing to flee violence of war and persecution.

Myth: Refugees are a drain on the economy.

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