

Refugees In Our World



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Photo credit: <http://i2.cdn.turner.com/cnnnext/dam/assets/160303085722-restricted-02-migrant-crisis-0303-super-169.jpg>

Refugees

What/who are they?

People forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster

Note: different from internally displaced persons (IDPs) forced from their homes but stay in their own country.

Refugees

Anyone know any refugees or know of a refugee?

Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Albert Einstein

Sigmund Freud

Henry Kissinger

Madeleine Albright

von Trapp family (Sound of Music)

Bob Marley

Dalai Lama

my mother (Annelies Kaufman)

Refugees

Scale of global crisis today

We are in the midst of the largest refugee crisis since WWII
Mainly from Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Somalia, Syria
In 2015, someone forced to flee every 2.5 seconds!

About half are children (<18 years)
>30mn displaced ... \simeq US pop of NY/New England
... or >40% the child population of the US

Average duration of displacement ... 17 years

Some brief, striking videos on child refugees

A broad description of the global problem:

<https://youtu.be/RstxqdvwFlo>

Save the Children's most shocking second a day video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBQ-1oHfimQ>

And its sequel:

<https://youtu.be/nKDgFCojiT8>

What can you do?

Locally?



More broadly?

- Write your Congressional reps (Sens. Schumer & Gillibrand, Rep. Reed) .. Take more (~85K max now)
 - Support groups like Save the Children, UNICEF, UNHCR, OXFAM, etc.
 - Pray for them and their caregivers and advocates
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Give thanks for our blessings ... and think of those less fortunate



“Walaa, 5, wants to go home. She had her own room in Aleppo, she tells us. There, she never used to cry at bedtime. Here, in the refugee camp, she cries every night. Resting her head on the pillow is horrible, she says, because nighttime is horrible. That was when the attacks happened. By day, Walaa’s mother often builds a little house out of pillows, to teach her that they are nothing to be afraid of.”

Photo credit: <http://www.boredpanda.com/where-children-sleep-syrian-refugee-crisis-photography-magnus-wennman/>