

HUMANITARIAN CAMPS CONTRIBUTE TO THE REFUGEE CRISIS

Zeth Rosell

RESEARCH QUESTION

How can the permanence of humanitarian refugee camps be addressed?

INTRODUCTION

Undeniably, there is an ongoing global crisis regarding the massive population of refugees. It is the responsibility of developed nations to provide a means by which those seeking refuge may again live autonomously.

However, it is apparent through the stories of those who reside within refugee camps that humanitarian aid is a temporary solution to a permanent problem when improperly addressed.

FINDINGS

- Refugee camps are a band-aid fix to an ever-growing crisis
- Refugees hold little to no urgency in being relocated, and lack autonomy
- Developed nations are hesitant to allow an influx of foreign immigrants
- There must be a fundamental shift in the relocation process



ISSUES

Even if refugees are lucky enough to be relocated to another country, often they continue struggling to return to normal living. Assimilation is just as much an issue for refugees as leaving their home country.

PROPOSAL

Considering these facts, the solution I propose is inspired by Ali El-Arabi's film *Captains of Za'atari*. In order for there to be a shift from both the developed nations' perception of refugees as well as within the camps, there must be opportunities for refugees to reside in foreign countries while at the same time being free from the threats against their livelihood they once faced. Opportunities such as playing sports professionally allow for the people of a developed nation to view the displaced people as a person rather than a refugee first.



Betts, Alexander, and Paul Collier. *Refuge: Rethinking Refugee Policy in a Changing World*. Oxford University Press, 2017.

El Arabi, Ali, director. *Captains of Zaatari*. 2021.

Luiselli, Valerim. *Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in Forty Questions*. Coffee House Press, 2017.

Rawlence, Ben. *City of Thorns: Nine Lives in the World's Largest Refugee Camp*. Picador, 2017.

Weiwei, Ai, director. *Human Flow*. Lionsgate Films, 2017.