

THE UN CONVENTION ON RIGHTS OF REFUGEES- WHAT CAN THE UK DO BETTER?



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Year 6

Who knows what the UN Convention is?



WHAT IS THE UN?

- ◉ The UN is an International Organisation made up of different countries around the world.
- ◉ It was founded in 1945 after the Second World War.
- ◉ Its aims are to promote peace, security and economic development.

WHAT IS THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF REFUGEES?

- ◉ After the end of the Second World War, there were a large number of refugees in Europe.
- ◉ In 1951 the UN decided to make rules for the protection of these refugees.
- ◉ These rules first only applied to European countries but in 1967 the convention was extended to include countries all over the world.
- ◉ 147 countries have agreed to this convention.

WHO IS DEFINED AS A REFUGEE?

- ◉ A person who has fear of being persecuted in their own country because of their race, religion or their beliefs.
- ◉ A person is not defined as a refugee if they have committed war crimes, a serious crime in another country or if they are a soldier that participates in military activities.



WHAT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES DO REFUGEES HAVE?

- ◉ The convention states that a refugee cannot be sent back to their own country if they are in danger of persecution.
- ◉ The rights of refugees protected by the convention are
 - Freedom of Movement
 - Freedom of Religion
 - The right to work
 - The right to education
- ◉ The convention also sets out the responsibilities the refugee has to its new country such as following all rules and laws.

Misconceptions about Refugees!

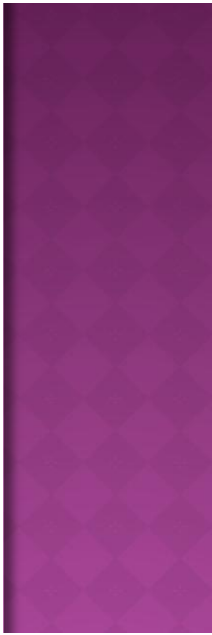
People often hold negative misconceptions about refugees however these misconceptions are often wrong and are based on wrong facts about refugees.





What do you
think

Is true?



- ◉ Myth: "Our Country is looking after MORE than its fair share of refugees."
- ◉ Fact: Only 3% of 9.2 million refugees are present in this country. Two thirds of refugees live in developing countries. We often complain about refugees in our countries. Why should poor countries have to take care of more refugees? We rich countries can take care of these refugees but why do the developing countries have to do this when we are available to help?

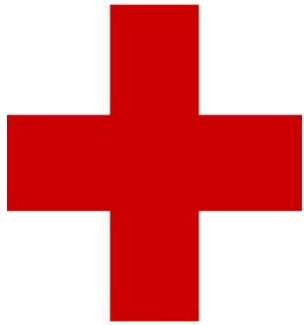
- ◉ Myth: "Refugees just take money from us. They take our jobs and use up our resources like housing and healthcare."
- ◉ Fact: Refugees get 70% of income support which is £40 pounds per week. Refugees which join our country are not allowed to work until the decision is made for them to stay in our country. Charities say "at least 85% of refugees have experienced hunger. 95% cannot afford clothes or shoes."

◉ Myth: "Refugees are usually criminals and break the law."



◉ Fact: Chief Police Officers say "a majority of refugees do not break the laws actually they are more likely to be the victims instead of criminals."

- ◉ Myth: "Refugees usually carry and spread diseases."



- ◉ Fact: In 2003 the Immigration Service tested 5000 refugees for infectious diseases such as HIV, AIDS and TB however they found that none of them were carrying these diseases. During this project they did find evidence that some of the refugees had been tortured.

- ◉ Our country has a very good record on human rights however there are many things that we could change or do better to protect the rights of refugees.



The decision making process of whether a refugee will be granted asylum usually takes very long sometimes it takes months or even years.



Asylum means when a refugee has been granted permission to stay in a country and work for their families.

Refugees are not allowed to work during this process and are forced to live on a little amount of money.



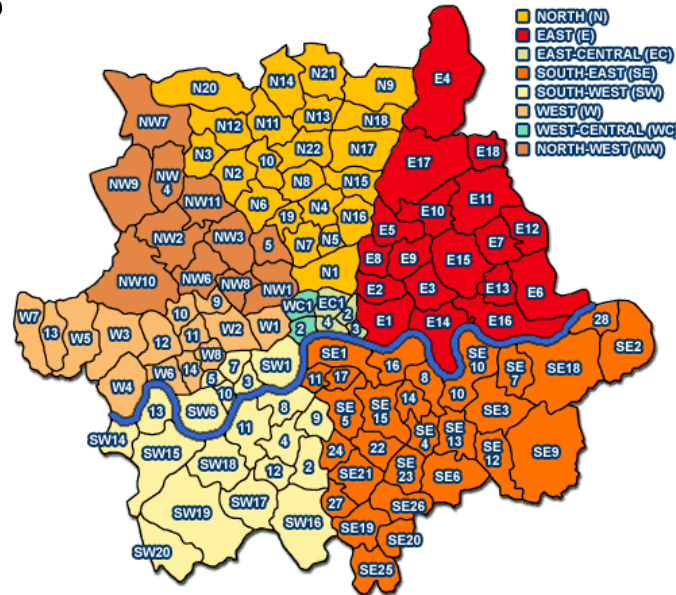
Refugees have to put up with horrible standard of living while they have to look after their family.

They often are given a poor quality housing to live in.



The houses that are given to refugees are often poor quality and this way the refugees are not treated as they should be.

Refugees may have to face prejudice from others that have misconceptions about refugees



These misconceptions instigate people to attack refugees or even humiliate them in front of the city.

What can the UK
do better?



The Government can make the asylum process quicker this way the Refugees will not have to live thinking whether they would be sent back and be killed in their own country.



The other option could be allowing the refugees to work this way citizens will not have to give money out of their own salary and the refugees can earn money for themselves.



The Government can provide the refugees with decent housing because refugees have the same rights as we do. Also we should treat them very nicely as to what they have been through in their country.



We could address misconceptions and educate people about the fact that refugees are not always bad so they would not have to face prejudice.



Refugees have come from countries that they fear of losing their lives. It is our responsibility to support them when they need help. Think about how we can help support refugees? And always remember...

We are all equal!

**ANY
QUESTIONS?**



**THANK YOU
FOR WATCHING OUR
PRESENTATION
WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED
IT!**

**Jasmin and
Ameela**