

Who is a refugee?

Training Materials on Refugee Rights March 23, 2016







Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

Who is a refugee?



- Outside their country
- Due to a well-founded fear
- Of persecution
- On one of 5 grounds
- Unable to go back





Outside their Country







Well-founded Fear

- Personal fear
- This is called the subjective element



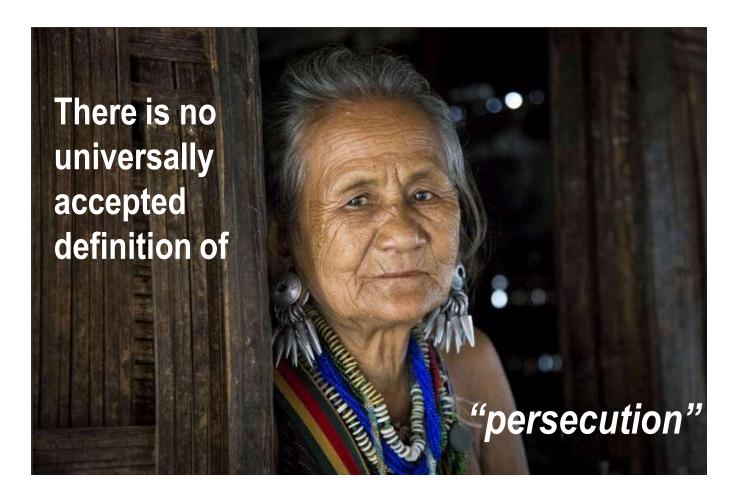
- Good reason to be fearful
- This is called the *objective* element







Persecution







5 Convention Grounds







Unable to go back









Marie's case



Marie was born in Côte d'Ivoire to parents from Burkina Faso. Employment has been scarce since the insurgency of Sept 2002. She is at a disadvantage because she speaks with an accent and potential employers have begun to favour "real" Ivorians.

Some of Marie's requests for work have met with violent rejections. She is finding it increasingly difficult to support her young family. Marie decides to leave her children with her mother and seek work in South Africa. An "employment agent" assures her that he will get her a waitress job in Johannesburg.

Javed's case



Javed is a 13 year old refugee from Afghanistan.

He attempts to leave his country of asylum using false documents but is detected at the airport. The authorities arrest and detain him under the national criminal law on travel documents and exit permission.

The immigration authorities are preparing to expel Javed on the basis of criminality. The authorities propose to send him to his country of origin. Javed fears he will be tortured upon return to Afghanistan.

Rosa & Manuel's case



Manuel and Rosa are 14 year old cousins from a small town in Colombia. They were abducted from school at gunpoint by the FARC. Manuel was forced to carry rifles and other articles. Many of the other boys died of hunger and thirst. Manuel was taught to shoot.

Another boy tried to escape but was caught. The FARC ordered the others to stand in a circle and beat the boy, under threat of being beaten or killed themselves. The boys beat him to death. Rosa was assigned to a man and expected to act as his "wife", fulfilling his domestic and sexual expectations. She helped to steal food from villagers. Girls who refused to participate were killed in front of the others as a warning.





THANK YOU!

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