



ILLEGAL



CRIMINAL



FOREIGN TRASH



QUEUE JUMPER



TROUBLEMAKER



FREELoader



VERMIN



SLACKER



SCUM



REFUGEE



YOU



ME

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Nasty names. Shocking even in print. But all too common if you're unlucky enough to be a refugee.

Wait. Why are "you" and "me" among them? And why is every figure identical? They're all the same!

Exactly!

You see, refugees *are* just like you and me. So what's the difference?

There's really only one: fear.

While our homes are safe and our rights are protected, their homes have been left behind and the rights they once enjoyed were swept away

by violence and hatred. They've been living in constant fear for their lives.

That's why they've had to leave their country.

That's why they are refugees. Of course they wish they were back home – wouldn't you?

But it's still too dangerous, and for now we must continue to offer them our help.

So please, don't get mad at refugees.

Instead, save your breath for the situation that's *made* them refugees.

If you want to support the efforts of UNHCR, log into www.unhcr.org or our local site www.unhcr.org.au





HOW DOES IT FEEL?

Imagine this.

You've lived all your life at peace. Home, family, friends, all normal. Then, without warning, your whole world changes.

Overnight, lifelong neighbours become lifelong enemies. Tanks prowl the streets and buses burn. Mortar shells shatter the mosques. Rockets silence the church bells.

Suddenly everything you've known and owned and loved is gone and, if you are lucky enough to survive, you find yourself alone and bewildered in a foreign land. You are a refugee.

How does it feel?

The fact is, refugees are like you and me, except that they have nothing left but their courage, and with it the hope of once more being contributing members of society. It's all they will ever have unless we help.

So when you do meet a refugee, imagine for a moment what it must be like, and then show her your smile. Not your back.

It may not seem much. But to a refugee it can mean everything.

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WHAT'S WRONG HERE?

Look at these nice people.

Notice that each one has something: a tool or implement here, a bicycle or a briefcase there. All completely normal and unremarkable.

But wait. Something's amiss. That nice fellow near the bottom – third row down, second from the right. He doesn't seem to have anything.

Indeed. You see, he's a refugee.

And as you can see, refugees are just like you and me except for one thing: they have been forced to leave their country because of persecution or war.

Everything they once had has been

lost. Home, family, possessions, all gone.

They have nothing left but their courage, and with it the hope of once more being contributing members of society. It's all they will ever have unless we help.

Of course, you can't give them back what's been destroyed. But we are asking you to keep an open mind. And a smile of welcome.

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