
From: Garrett Bacon <gbacon@g.clemson.edu>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2015 12:21 AM
To: Haley, Nikki
Subject: Syrian refugee crisis

Governor Haley,

As a South Carolina citizen and student at Clemson University, I am disappointed in South Carolina's refusal to take in Syrian refugees.

After much flip-flopping on the issue and hearing valid points from both sides, I feel like the only option we have when it comes to the Syrian refugees is to let them in. Leaving them out to be slaughtered or brainwashed by ISIS shouldn't even be an option. The blood on our hands as a nation isn't worth some peace of mind. Xenophobia and islamophobia have arisen due to the scapegoating of people who are fighting the same fight that we are. Of the eight identified terrorists from the Paris attacks, exactly zero were refugees. In fact, they all had EU passports.

I'm not usually inclined to tell people how to think, but this seemed warranted. Governor Haley, I implore you to ignore the media based panic that these refugees are out to kill us all. Many of them are just like us, and I'm sure that if we ever found ourselves in a similar situation that we would hope for a country to take us in. The screening process is extensive, and we have the capacity to take them in and integrate them as productive members of society. If we don't take in these people, we're showing ISIS that we're scared of their threats.

I ask you to please reconsider your decision on this matter.

Sincerely,

Coleman Bacon

P.S. I have attached a picture of a Syrian refugee taken by Swedish photographer Magnus Wennman



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