

Vermont town: open arms accepts refugees of war and poverty

January 8, 2017

As Vermonters, we are proud of our strong communities, our small towns; community makes us who we are: honest, caring people.

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Some small town mayor, others, may be outraged; and I am not discounting here any reasoning anyone may give.

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Community dialogue is extremely important. But let us be clear on one thing: It is lawful for people, specifically refugees of foreign lands, to enter our community; it is just.

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A beautiful place like Vermont, with all its richness, is exactly our welcome offer.

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I commend: nonprofitquarterly.org for supporting publicly rutlandwelcomes.org -and thank gratefully anyone working on behalf of those in such need.

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Failing to make this moral decision, or see its virtue, is not seeing humanity, one person or millions of people... □

in the balance, waiting for us to act. □

We cannot fail them on this. We cannot let them die.

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Other states are taking no refugees. I ask that people really consider, weigh the moral implications of one's own part in a human struggle.

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I urge people to raise questions to sites like:

bloomberg.com

boston.com (Boston Globe) □ And promote a mentality of understanding and compassion towards any person in need of help.

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□ ***Jordan Lafland***

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(additional notes)□

Vermont is not hardly the wealthiest among US States.

We may be poor but it is our community that makes us rich.

Vermont: 50th of 50 in terms of GDP ([2015](#)).

Vermont: 50th of 50 in terms of GSP for just about the last decade.

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Vermont is 49th of 50 in terms of state population:
~650,000, second only to Wyoming.

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Four times as many people live in Brooklyn compared to Vermont. (~ 650,000 and 2.6 million respectively.) □

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