

In 2016 the Cato Institute did a risk assessment on terrorism and immigration. Cato is a Washington D.C.-based think tank that advocates for limited government, free markets and greater immigration admissions. Their study concluded "the chance of being killed by a refugee committing a terrorist act is 1 in 3.6 billion."

Refugees are the most heavily vetted of any people who enter the United States, facing an 18- to 24-month processing period, according to the Migration Policy Institute. Of the three and a quarter million refugees admitted from 1975 to the end of 2015, 20 were terrorists.

Also it seems that those 20 refugees were not very successful at killing Americans in terrorist attacks. Only three were successful, killing a total of three people in the 70s. By the way those terrorists were Cuban refugees. Not a single refugee, Syrian or otherwise, has been implicated in a terrorist attack since the Refugee Act of 1980 set up systematic procedures for accepting refugees into the United States according to Cato.

So, if refugees aren't hiding behind trees waiting to kill us who or what is? Well, spanning all our wars from the American Revolution to the Iraq and Afghanistan wars there have been a total of approximately 1.4 million deaths with 750,000 of them at our own hands during the Civil War.

Moving on. What about gunfire-related deaths on our own soil? And I'm not just talking about homicides. The fact is, homicides represent a minority of gun deaths, with suicides comprising the biggest share. In 2013, according to CDC data, 63 percent of gun-related deaths were from suicides, 33 percent were from homicides, and roughly 1 percent each were from accidents, legal interventions and undetermined causes. By the way the grand total for gun deaths in the US from 1968 to 2015 according to the CDC –is a bit over 1.5 million.

In other words more Americans have died from guns in the United States since 1968 than on battlefields of all the wars in American history. By the way I'm not making this comment as an anti-war or anti-gun proponent. My mother and grandmother were proud members of the Daughters of the American Revolution with family also fighting in the Civil War and both World Wars. My point is that blaming refugees is nothing more than a diversionary tactic and scapegoating. I spent the first quarter of my life under the fear mongering of Joseph McCarthy and J Edgar Hoover as they searched for commies behind every tree and I don't want to live out my fourth quarter with the fictitious, reckless, imaginary claims and accusations of the present administration.

Zero refugees from countries included in the president's travel ban have killed anyone in terrorist's attacks on American soil in 40 years ..... period!