From:	Kristopher Fisk
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Afghan Refugees in Missoul
Date:	Tuesday, August 24, 2021 12:14:40 PM

Councilmembers,

I am very opposed to allowing Afghans to settle in Missoula. It's a grave disservice to the people of Missoula, Montana, and the United States to allow this, and it's a disservice to the Afghans as well.
We currently have significant issues in Missoula, such as COVID, the housing crisis, jobs, etc. Bringing in foreigners simply increases competition for work and housing, driving housing costs up and wages down. We've already seen a significant influx of new residents in our city which have made these problems worse. Adding even more people will not improve the situation for the working people of Missoula.
Afghanistan is bordered by Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Each of those countries have ethnic ties to the different peoples who live in the borders of Afghanistan; ie Tajik Afghans, Persian, Afghans, Pashtun Afghans, Uzbek Afghans, Turkic Afghans. These refugees would fare much better being among people who speak their languages and practice their customs in these adjacent countries. I did a tour in Afghanistan in 2008, and while I know there are fine people there, they are very different and their views on many things are significantly divergent from many American norms, such as the practice of bacha bazi, which is the raping of little boys, to say nothing of how most of them look at and treat women.
I urge you to reconsider any support that you've had for refugee resettlement in the area. It's bad for us, and it's bad for them.

Sincerely,

Kris Fisk
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