

## **Discrimination Against Women at the Border**

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### **Abstract**

Female refugees and immigrants come to America for numerous reasons: for access to healthcare, to search for career opportunities, and sometimes, to fight a battle of life and death by seeking asylum.

Seeking asylum for women who are fleeing countries in fear of violence, sexual and physical, face extraordinary challenges. Refugees may seek asylum if he or she fears or has already experienced prosecution on issues pertaining to one of five protected grounds: race, religion, nationality, membership in a social or in a political opinion. Note, gender is not a protected ground.

Because of this, there are asylum requests being denied daily because of this absent category. Migrant women play a vital role in the global economy, and the war of violence against women are removing them from the workplace, restricting opportunities for better health, freedom, and safety, and eliminate the chance to seek education. When women are stripped of these opportunities, they are forced into a cycle of violence, unable to escape and contribute to society.

This blatant discrimination is being overlooked in our society, and courts are not responsive to the effects and horrors of violence against women. The following article will seek to research the cases and the stigma of refugee women seeking asylum to the United States in effort to escape violence, and what solutions and current laws are out there to help and empower women seeking safety in the U.S.