Stephen Colbert tells Donald Trump Jr. to 'fudge himself' for Skittles tweet

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Earlier this week, Donald Trump Jr. shared an image on Twitter equating the Syrian refugee crisis with a bowl of Skittles. According to the image, "our Syrian refugee problem" is like being handed a bowl of Skittles and being told that only three of them would kill you. "Would you take a handful?" it boldly asks.

Like many of us, Stephen Colbert was both horrified and intrigued.

As Colbert points out, not only is the math a little off, but the grammar is just atrocious. "If I had a bowl of skittles and told you just three would kill you" is not a complete sentence. Also, it's Skittles. It's a proper noun. The word "skittles" is not some generic word for "small candies." This image carries the stamp of the Trump/Pence 2016 campaign. Why didn't someone glance over it first?

But more important that the grammatical disaster (but only slightly) is the fact that the bowl in the image probably contains something like 60 or 70 Skittles. We're supposed to believe that 3 out of every 60 or 70 Syrian refugees want to kill us? That our odds of being killed by a refugee are nearly 5%?

As it turns out, a recent study by the conservative Cato Institute shows that the odds of an American being killed by a Syrian refugee in a terror attack are 1 in 3.64 billion. That's billion with a "b." I'm no statistician, but I'm fairly certain 1 in 3.64 billion is less than 5%. Nevertheless, Skittles has already released a statement:

Hi Seth,

Thanks for reaching out. Here is our response.

Skittles are candy. Refugees are people. We don't feel it's an appropriate analogy. We will respectfully refrain from further commentary as anything we say could be misinterpreted as marketing.

Denise Young
VP of Corporate Affairs, Wrigley Americas