

# Pittsburgh Post-Gazette®

## **We should fear homegrown terrorists, not vetted refugees**

Joan Schenker

February 1, 2017

Immigration ban. Really? This will keep us safe? There is a one in 3.6 billion chance of being killed by a refugee each year, according to the Cato Institute, and there are typically 18 to 24 months of screening before Syrian refugees are admitted to the U.S.

As a senior citizen, I am more fearful of “homegrown hate” in the despicable forms of alt-right, domestic terrorist Timothy McVeigh in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing and Dylann Roof, white supremacist and mass murderer of nine at a historic Charleston, S.C., church in 2015. I will take my chances with a vetted refugee anytime.

Compassion for vulnerable refugees, most of whom are women and children, lifts us all. Open your minds and your hearts as you would if these were your own loved ones seeking safety.