

CALAVERAS ENTERPRISE

From Arnold to the state Capitol

Karen Elliott

February 17, 2017

My daughter and I had the good fortune to attend the Women's March in Sacramento on Jan. 21, and we were pleased to see the participants from Calaveras County carrying their posters identifying them as from our county and voicing the subjects they wanted to address.

One week later, we had to hit the streets again, protesting the illegal executive order banning vetted immigrants with visas and green card holders from entering our country. This ridiculous order, geared to raise fear in the citizens of this wonderful country, simply does not hold up under the facts – never mind that it is targeted at a specific religious group: Muslims.

A recent study has identified the citizenship of America's post-9/11 era terrorists as follows: U.S.-born citizens – 190; naturalized citizens – 82; permanent residents – 43; refugees – 12; nonimmigrant visa holders – 11; and illegal immigrants – 8.

A recent CATO Institute study found that Americans are 253 times more likely to die in an ordinary homicide than a terrorist attack carried out by a foreigner in the U.S. There has not been a single terrorist event since 9/11 attributed to a refugee.

Meanwhile, we in the U.S. self-inflict 30,000 homicides annually, as well as an additional 20,000 annual opioid deaths. There are over 300,000 cigarette-induced deaths annually. There are 30,000 auto deaths (DUI, etc.) annually. In London, there were 9,500 deaths in 2015 attributed to nitrous oxide auto emissions. We evidently don't have the number in the U.S., but this is a climate change issue, which this administration needs to address.

Considering all of these statistics, we shall continue to peacefully march in protest of this administration trampling on the rights of the people under our Constitution, weekly if necessary. This is what democracy looks like.