



## Gay Nigerian seeks Asylum in America

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Follow Babatunde Scott-Ashley who came to America to seek Asylum after facing violence and persecution for being gay in his home country of Nigeria.

Every day people come to the United States seeking asylum from countries that refuse to protect them.

From China, from Iraq, from Mexico and Venezuela. More than 100,000 were filed in the United States in 2017 alone.

Babatunde Scott-Ashley fled his home country of Nigeria when he was 27. He arrived in March 2017 seeking asylum after facing violence and persecution for being gay.

The African nation is notorious for its treatment of homosexuals. Police and gangs harass, beat and persecute people who are believed to be gay. After facing unimaginable hate and abuse, Babatunde believed he had no choice but to escape a country that refused to protect him.

Babatunde's case began after meeting Shanti Tharayil, a lawyer with the Community Development Project at the Urban Justice Center, who helped him submit his case for asylum.

We followed him through that entire process.

President Trump has promised "comprehensive" reform in dealing with immigration. Former Attorney General Jeff Sessions limited the ability of victims of gang violence and domestic abuse to gain asylum.

Government data shows this has had an impact. So far in 2018, the current administration is denying immigration applications at a rate 37% higher than the previous administration, according to a recent study from the CATO Institute.