



## **Bowling Green Massacre: the terror attack that wasn't**

February 2, 2017

Kellyanne Conway, a senior advisor to President Donald Trump, has baffled audiences by blaming Iraqi refugees for a terrorist attack that [never happened](#).

Conway, who was Trump's election campaign manager, was being interviewed on MSNBC about the new president's [travel ban](#) when she cited the "Bowling Green massacre" as a reason for the original selection of the 7 nations on the list, by President Obama.

"Most people don't know, because it didn't get covered", Conway [declared](#). In fact, most people don't know about the Bowling Green Massacre because it didn't happen.

Two Iraqi men indeed lived in Bowling Green, Kentucky in 2011. They were even convicted of terrorism offences, and are serving life terms. However, their crime was not targeting the US, and they did not kill anyone.

Mahanad Shareef Hammadi and Waad Ramadan Alwan were both [convicted](#) of attempting to "send weapons and money to Al-Qaeda in Iraq".

Terrorists? Arguably. Masterminds of a "massacre" on US soil? Not quite.

Conway was attempting to defend the controversial executive order that Trump signed to stop refugees and nationals of 7 Muslim-majority nations (including Iraq) entering the US for at least 90 days.

The [order](#) is intended to protect "the nation from foreign terrorist entry", which is why Conway wanted to link terrorists from outside of the US with terrorist attacks on US soil.

However, the Cato Institute – a public policy think tank in Washington DC –[says that](#) between 1975 and 2015 foreign nationals from the seven countries named killed no Americans in the US.

This is not the first time Conway has been criticised for her relationship with the facts.

In January she [told](#) NBC’s Chuck Todd that what journalists had referred to as “falsehoods” were actually “alternative facts”.

## Reaction

As with almost any political misstep since the advent of social media, internet users have been quick to ridicule Conway.

Some saw the similarities to an unfortunately unsuccessful college American football team:



Others took an altogether more British look at the situation:



And 2015's #JeSuis movement was also sardonically included:

