



Watch Syracuse medical students blast Trump's travel ban

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Upstate Medical University medical students voice their adamant opposition to Donald Trump's travel ban in a video they made addressed to the president.

The YouTube [video](#) shows first- and second-year medical students in scenes shot on the Upstate campus and in front of a North Side mosque.

"We are here to say we do not support your fear-driven policies, your racial profiling, your ban on immigration nor your plan to register Muslims because we are Muslim and Jewish and Christian and atheist and everything else you can think of," the students say. " ... we are the future doctors of your country and you are going to need us."

Students, many of whom work with refugees, wanted to take some sort of action after Trump announced the ban, according to Eric Zabriskie, one of the students. At first they considered staging a demonstration, then decided to do a video.

Zabriskie put it together with fellow students Hiba Zafar, Madison Pomerantz, Nainita Madurai and Giovanna Deluca.

"We spent three days running around like crazy shooting it with about 30 other students," he said.

Zabriskie said Upstate has been very supportive of the video which has received about 50,000 page views.

"It's a video letter to the president, but just as much a video tribute to our current and future patients who may feel threatened or hurt by these policies," he said.

Trump's ban has encountered a lot of opposition nationwide from the health care industry which relies heavily on doctors and other health professionals from other countries.

More than 30 percent of Upstate's 590 residents, or doctors in training, are from other countries. Eight of them are from seven predominantly Muslim countries targeted by the ban.

Trump has said the ban is necessary to keep out terrorists.

The students, citing statistics from the Cato Institute, say the chance of an American dying in a terrorist attack caused by a refugee is 1 in 3.64 billion per year.

"... there are real threats to our lives and health, which desperately need our attention, and then there are manufactured ones," they say.