

FINAL PROJECT SAMPLE

Creating a Service Network for the Asylum Wanderers



Introduction

This project focuses on the idea of creating a service network for seekers of asylum, as well as refugees. It will also look into the way in which integration is promoted into the local community. The word "migrant" is used in general form. However, for this research alone, it is very important to create a distinction between the various categories in which these migrants fall into. This is because reasons for migration may vary. For instance, a "Legal Immigrant" is someone who can enter, work, and live in a certain country without worrying about any restriction. On the other hand, an "Illegal Immigrant" enters a country in an illegal way, without any permission coming from an immigration officer. There is also a concept of an "Economic Migrant" which separates migrants from asylum seekers and refugees. They refer to people who left their home country, and can still return whenever they wish to do so. (Blotch, 2010).

The terms "refugees" and "asylum seekers", on the other hand, are usually used interchangeably in media, thus giving the impression that the meaning is different. Officially, however, a distinct difference is created between the two terms. An asylum seeker is often termed as a person who seeks refuge in a country other than his or her own. The word that should be focused here is "seeking", since they have not yet received the right to stay in the country where they have sought asylum. As stated by the law, individuals who arrive in a certain country without permission coming from an immigration officer is considered as an asylum seeker (Cobalt, 1996).

Johnston et al., (2002) explains that "refugees" refer to people who are displaced, and are unwilling and unable to go back to their homeland because they face persecutions for different reasons such as religion, race, or nationality. It is also highly important to note that all of these definitions are not used always in this way alone, since various combinations are usually used depending on perceptions and personal preferences. A number of researchers have talked with some refugees and asylum seekers acknowledging both of their personal perspectives and legal title.

Sherman (2004) also reports that the terms have already developed into new categories in the society. As a matter of fact, these terms give emphasis to asylum seeker as ones that are underserving, when compared to those who are categorized as "refugees". The latter are often described as deserving for support. This may be something that is fired up by media during the mid-1990s. In fact, a number of articles were published in newspapers, presenting the increase in the numbers of asylum seekers, under the label economic migrants, seeing the way they search for an improvement in their standard of living, instead of individuals feeling their home because of persecution.

Literature Review

Traditional methods regarding geographic analysis involving asylum seekers and refugees have been further focused on particular case studies involving refugee emergencies looking at borders and space, as well as concrete divisions instead of taking into consideration the social

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aspect involved in the lives of refugees as well as asylum seekers.

By studying asylum seekers and refugees in a geopolitical context, there is a loss in geographical dimension. As such, the gap between cultural and political geography has to be bridged accordingly. Balmer (2012) explains that a person can have more than a single identity, with their lives being able to cross some separate lines involving difference, social statuses and boundaries, all at the same time.

Ethnographic Research

Refugees and asylum seekers do not have the same level of access towards financial assistance in various countries. For instance, asylum seekers can only enjoy up to 70% of the income support which are usually provided to citizens and refugees. On top of that, if the asylum seekers do not have a place to dwell upon their arrival in the country, their only choice is to be accommodated in a government-provided area.

Refugees also have to deal with the hostility involved with the preparation of the housing system. On top of that, they also face troubles when it comes to finding employment. As such, they end up seeking housing benefits in order to help with their needs for immediate accommodation. However, for these refugees, the very system intended to provide help often results to further challenges and difficulties.

References



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