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Leading Trump: Why the United States Shouldn't Accept the Hand that has been Dealt

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Op-Ed one

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Leading Trump:

Why the United States Shouldn't Accept the Hand that has been Dealt

There are countless numbers of irrational fears that may haunt a completely rational human. Perhaps the most dangerous of these irrational fears is the fear of fellow humans. As you read this, there is one powerful, evil man looking to perpetuate the irrational fear of one human group in particular, Muslims. This irrational fear has a name and that name is Islamophobia and seeks to destroy the original American right, the right to religious freedom.

Currently, Donald Trump is on track to win the Republican nomination for the next presidential candidate, his biggest selling point being that the Muslim religion and its people should not be allowed in the country. As a lifelong member of the Republican Party I know that we pride ourselves in our faithfulness to the Constitution. Unfortunately, it seems as though many Republicans have forgotten about Article One, the right to religious freedom. We must not elect an American president who does not recognize the basic American rights. Many well-known Republicans have raised their voices against this great injustice. One such Republican is former Vice-President Dick Cheney who said this, "I just think this whole notion that somehow we need to say no more Muslims and just ban a whole religion goes against everything we stand for and believe in" (Kampmark). With obvious opposition from both political parties, and blatant disregard for the American Constitution, why does Trump have so much support? It is because he feeds the fear. With 9/11 still fresh in the American mind, people are susceptible to believing the lie that all Muslims hate America and want to watch us burn. As this fear builds, it becomes easier to accept the plan to not allow the Muslim Religion into the country in exchange for peace of mind. This is why it is important for the general population to become educated about what the Muslim Religion is really about. The most important thing for the general public to understand is that the vast majority of Muslims are very peaceful and themselves live in daily fear of attacks from extremist groups such as ISIS (Cole). Muslims in the Middle East want the terrorist groups gone just as much as Americans. No matter how many times Trump says it in his speech, most Muslims do not hate Americans; instead, as a study completed in 2015 found that most countries in the Middle East gave the US a more favorable rating than Germany gave the US (Cole). When citizens of the Middle East were asked what it is that they dislike the most about the US, the most common answer was the disrespect for the Muslim Religion (Cole). Perhaps one way of ensuring the Middle East does not come to hate the US is to respect their religion, which cannot be accomplished by making it a criminal act. The US also has many misconceptions about the treatment of Muslim women which causes many to look down their nose at the religion. However, if one were to look at the facts they would find things such as the fact that just as many Muslim women have college degrees as Muslim men (Contributors). One of the main flaws in Trump's argument against Muslims allowing in America is that he seems to have no concept of American Muslims. Many of the families of American Muslims can be traced back to having been brought to the US to be sold into slavery (Contributors). American Muslims are just as likely to defend the US by joining the military (Contributors). This means that at this

moment there are American Muslims fighting the war on terrorism rather than contributing to the terrorism.

With this knowledge it is wrong to stand by and let this happen simply because it might not affect you personally. As Americans it is our responsibility to fight these misconceptions against our fellow citizens and fellow humans and defend our rights and make sure this oppression never becomes a reality. We must not sit back and allow a leader to take away our rights. The freedom of religion will just be the beginning of the end of American Freedom. Please do the right thing America and do not let Donald Trump be the next leader of this country.

References

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