

Afghan Refugees Report Sexual Harassment in Western Camps

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This post is part of an ongoing series of reports on the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan and its impact on women by feminist author Phyllis Chesler.

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It is horrendous enough that Afghan allies (feminists, gays, dissident activists, interpreters) are still stranded in Afghanistan, long after the last Western troops have gone.

It is horrendous enough that the Taliban are holding planes filled with Americans on the tarmac in Mazar-i-Sharif, holding them hostage for what? International recognition of their rogue regime? A huge amount of cash? A seat on the United Nations Security Council or perhaps on the reigning Committees for Human Rights and Women's Rights? (In our view, we'd promise them whatever they want and then, once our people are out, Taliban-style, renege on the deal. This is precisely how they do business).

True, America and Europe have been accepting a large number of Afghan immigrants, often unvetted, sometimes without visas. We have accepted risk and costs. Good for us. Then, how can we explain the horrendous conditions in the refugee camps both in Germany and all over America?

Sexual harassment in [Ramstein](#), a large US airbase in Germany which has served as an evacuation hub, has been reported by multiple women and by some men who report intense male staring (at women), and attempts at touching. Sexual assaults have

taken place. The women involved will never go to the police. They'd be signing their own death warrants if they did so. They'd be honor killed by their families.

One Afghan man in Germany just told us: "One man touched my genitals" and other men 'stare' at my wife." He fears that these are Taliban sympathizers who are "checking to see if I'm gay."

Even more important, given the boredom and the long and empty hours of waiting, only waiting, the most traditional Afghan men are insisting that the younger men pray five times a day. An imam in Ramstein insisted that they do so, "scolded them" when they did not, even though no one has a Quran. We fear that they are at risk of being radicalized. Taliban sympathizers or at least Islamic fundamentalists are moving among the young.

People are overcrowded in the American camps as well. This means that people with COVID and TB are living close together with those who are—so far—free of these diseases. They are all using the same, single bathroom. True, people are getting vaccinated and quarantined—but they are also having some bad reactions and do not have access to medical attention. One woman just told us that "there are twenty five people in one room," no internet access, and "many sick people."

The food is paltry, too little. Some want halal food.

Over and over again, we are hearing from our women that there is no privacy; too few bathrooms; too few sanitary products. Worse. Human nature being what it is, people are actually hoarding whatever toilet paper rolls, diapers, and tampons there are.

God bless the American, European, and Israeli former special forces, American Marines, and financiers who are carrying out rescue missions, given that the American government has turned tail and refused to look back. We will never recover from this

shame—but the civilian launched “digital Dunkirk” will live on forever as individual redemptive actions.

Please help fund our efforts to get the women out of Afghanistan; get them out of the overcrowded camps; get them legally settled in something safer and saner, in Western countries.

Support Afghan Feminist Refugees

If you would like to support feminist Afghan refugees, donations are being collected by Phyllis Chesler and may be sent via [PayPal](#) or directly to Santander Bank (account number: 9536340771, routing number: 231372691). For direct wires, please email Melanie Shapiro, Esq. at melanie@melanieshapiroesq.com so she will know the amount and the name of the donor.

Donations will go directly to Afghan feminist refugees like [Aisha](#) for immediate needs like food, plane tickets, cell phone access, changes of clothing, etc.

9/7/21 – Phyllis and Melanie are looking to raise \$100,000 to help these refugees. Thanks to 4W readers and others who have heard Aisha’s story, we are already \$20,000 towards that goal!

During the month of September, 4W will be donating 10% of proceeds from Patreon to the Afghan Feminist Fund managed by Melanie and Phyllis. All new and upgrading patrons this month will also receive this limited edition “I AM AISHA” sticker.

