

# Equity Lunch AIP

Sarah Jane Schmidt  
3 March 2017

# gender equity officer

Looking for interested people!

Andrea has details.

# march for science

- In response to US policy changes, but also in support of science everywhere
- April 22
- Main march in Washington DC, sister marches planned all over
- Facebook, twitter, web
- Counterpoint: march claims to be non-partisan, but science is deeply political



12-14 May 2017, Berlin

The conference on gender, career paths and networking

[I, Scientist Website](#)

Mission:

increase visibility of female role models

raise awareness of unconscious biases

introduce a variety of career options

provide opportunities to network

# US Travel Ban and Scientists

# Ground Rule

This topic is a sensitive issue for some in the room. There may be an element of ridiculous in the current situation, but please save jokes for another different forum.

# Disclaimer

I have made an effort to compile and present accurate information, but I am not an expert on the US government and its policies.

I (personally) stand firmly against the travel ban and related actions by the US government.

I am a US citizen.

# This Presentation

Executive Orders - what are they?

Consequences - what happened?

Court Battle - where are they now?

Reactions - how did scientists react?

Solutions - what can we do?



# Executive Orders

Enacted by president of the US - used by every president to some extent

Subject to Judicial Review and must be supported by law and the constitution

Not meant to cover major policy initiatives (those should come from legislature)

# Previous Executive Orders

Emancipation proclamation (1, Lincoln, 1862)

Japanese internement (9066, Roosevelt, 1943)

Desegregation of public schools (10730, Eisenhower, 1957)

But usually mundane, like changing the “President’s Council on Fitness and Sports” to the “President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition” (13545, Obama, 2010)

# Executive Order 13769

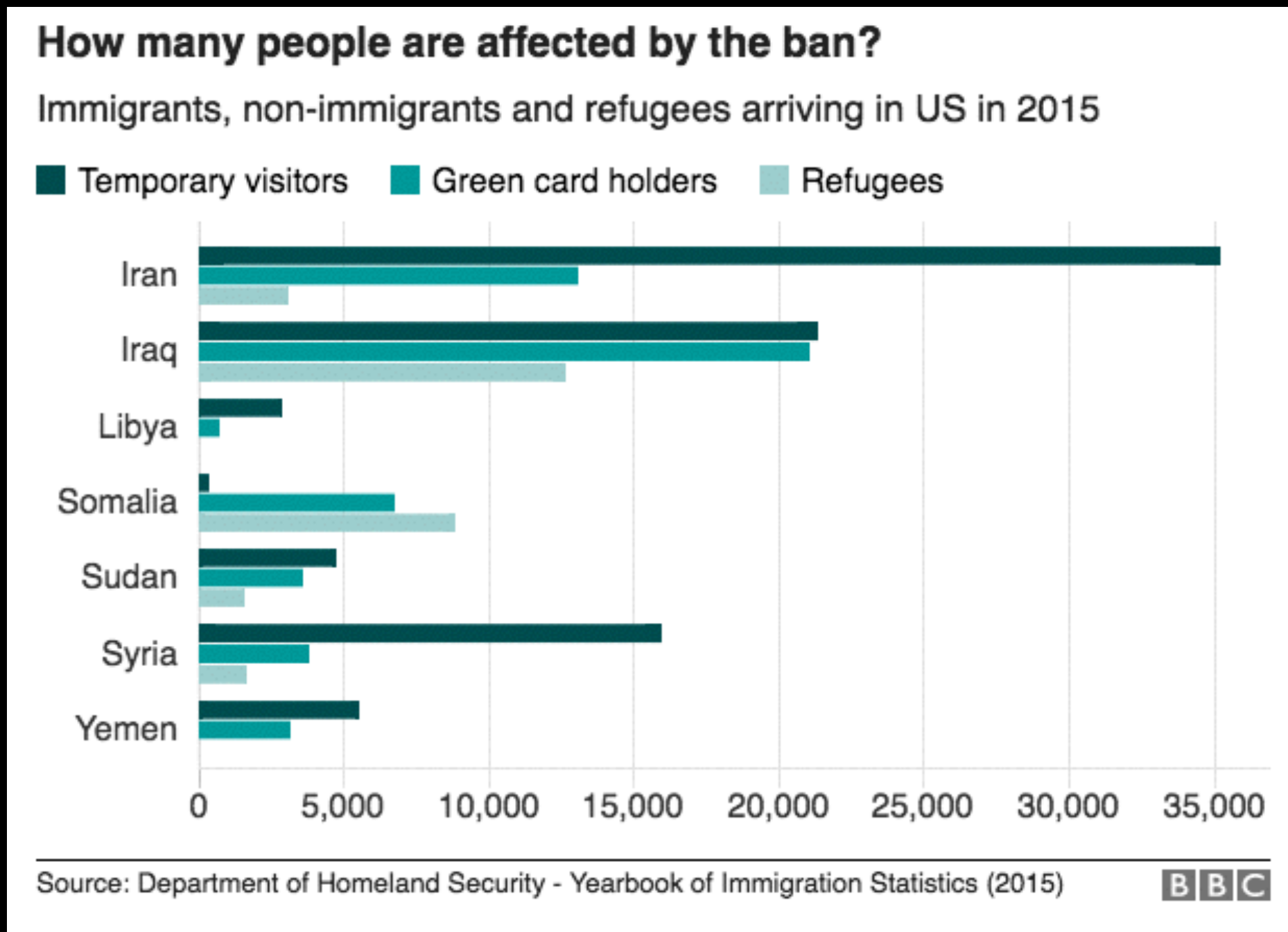
Titled: “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States” ([Full text on wikipedia](#))

Refugee entry suspended for 120 days; Syrian refugees banned indefinitely

Refugee cap for 2017 lowered - 110,000 to 50,000

Travelers from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen face a 90 day visa suspension

# Consequences



# Where alleged attackers were born



Countries of origin and total number of alleged attackers

Countries affected by Trump's executive order



Sources: Global Terrorism Database; FBI  
New America; staff and published reports

THE WASHINGTON POST

# A Muslim Ban?

The Executive Order does not mention religion

The countries selected combined with anti-Muslim rhetoric indicate that was the goal

[This Vox.com article](#) discusses possible terms for the ban.

# Immediate Effects

As soon as the ban was enacted, many (hundreds?) travelers were delayed and detained.

Order was vague enough that some low-level and local officials felt free with interpretation.

Lawsuits were filed; protests occurred

# Order has been stayed

Effects are still clear. Potentially affected people have been advised to limit or cancel travel in and out of US

Climate of fear and anti-immigrant sentiment endorsed by administration and normalized.



# Court Battles

Executive Orders are only legal when they do not contradict existing legislation or the constitution

A federal court in Seattle has challenged the order; it currently may not be implemented

# Court Battles

The administration is fighting in court;  
plans to release an updated Executive  
Order

# Reactions: societies

The Women In Astronomy blog provides a post summarizing reactions from the AAS, members of the CSMA, the IAU, the AAAS, and more.

Similar statements from the RAS, the APS, and German science institutions.

This is a non-exhaustive list, likely more.

# Reactions: grassroots

Scientists Against a Fascist Government statement and petition

Petition by No To Imigration Ban, noting opposition to the executive order by over 40000 scientists

Science Undivided, pledge by 600+ scientists to not attend conferences in the US

Science march discussed at beginning

# Solutions

What can we do to show opposition, protect our colleagues and ourselves, and advocate for a better world?

# Solutions: Provide Shelter

Volunteer to host scientists affected by the executive order

Where possible, seek to recruit and hire scientists from countries singled out by US administration

Encourage your colleges at non-US institutions to do the same

# Solutions: Petition

Mark your opposition with No To Imigration Ban

Join the boycott with Science Undivided (note that I personally am not signing)

Stand with Scientists Against a Fascist Government

# Solutions: Resist

Check the [Resistance Manual](#) for possibilities



# Solutions: Remote Access

Where travel is prohibited or difficult, provide opportunities for scientists to attend conferences remotely

Provide the opportunity to give talks over Skype and similar tools

Live-stream conference talks and archive videos