

**Topic:** Role of the Resettlement Agency  
(International Catholic Migration Commission, Turkey)

**Activity:** Resettlement Agency Case Study

<b>Materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resettlement agency case study (see sample below)</li></ul>
<b>Practice</b>	1. Distribute the resettlement agency case study to participants. Either read aloud or give the participants an opportunity to read the case study by themselves. Then discuss:
<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do you consider Mr. X's and Mr. Y's attitudes towards the resettlement agency appropriate? Why or why not?</li><li>• Why do you think their financial assistance was cut?</li><li>• If you were Mr. X or Mr. Y, what would you do in order to find a job in your first month of resettlement?</li><li>• What would you do in order to get a better job in the future?</li></ul>
<b>Practice</b>	2. Provide the following background information:  In order to compete with the rest of the unemployed population in the United States, one must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. learn English as soon as possible,</li><li>b. try to become computer literate, and</li><li>c. focus on acquiring valuable job skills.</li></ol> Most importantly, one has to follow her/his resettlement agency's guidance and cooperate with them in order to find a job. It is expected that refugees should accept the first job offer they get. Not accepting the first job offer may result in losing your financial assistance.

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### Resettlement Agency Case Study

The X family and Y family were resettled in the U.S. in August of 2002. Mr. X was a civil engineer in his home country, and Mr. Y taught English in a senior high school there. The men of both families asked their resettlement agencies in the United States to find them jobs they wanted. Case workers in the resettlement agency tried to explain that there were over 94,000 people drawing from unemployment compensation in their city. There were probably 50,000 to 100,000 more local employable persons who were not working but not drawing unemployment compensation, which meant there were many unemployed Americans competing with refugees for the few jobs available.

In spite of knowing these facts, Mr. X, who spoke no English and knew nothing about the U.S. business environment, still wanted to step into a high-paying engineering job. Mr. Y, whose English had a heavy accent, wanted to get a full-time job as a U.S. English teacher. These families argued with almost all of the members of the resettlement agency, demanding that they be given what they wanted. Moreover, both of these men were very rude and overbearing with the resettlement agency's female caseworkers.

Soon they were left in a position where the resettlement agency could provide them with no further assistance. Additionally, financial assistance under the Matching Grant Program had been cut off for these families.

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