They are not refugees according to U.S. immigration law

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Refugees

According to U.S. immigration law, a refugee is someone who has been resettled to the United States through the U.S. resettlement program. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services states that a refugee is someone who "Is located outside of the United States; Is of special humanitarian concern to the United States; Demonstrates that they were persecuted or fear persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group; Is not firmly resettled in another country; and is admissible to the United States."

Refugees are required to respect the laws and regulations of the United States.

Refugees should receive at least the same rights and basic help as any other foreigner who is a legal resident, including freedom of thought, of movement, and freedom from torture and degrading treatment.