REFUGEES

Bosnia and Herzegovina were part of the former Republic of Yugoslavia. In the spring of 1992, the country began a civil war that lasted until 1995. Bosnia is now an independent state. Its three main ethnic groups are Bosnian Muslims, Serbs and Croats.

Before the war Bosnia was a good place to live. Bosnians could go anywhere and not be afraid. They could open their houses to friends and not be afraid. They knew a lot about the United States because they watched television and movies from the United States.

Because of this war, many Bosnians came to the United States as refugees. They settled in many cities. In Chicago many Bosnians work at the O’Hare Hilton. They do many jobs. They work in the Housekeeping Department, the Stewarding Department and the Kitchen. In Bosnia they had different jobs. Some of them had their own business. Some of them were nurses. Some of them owned stores. It is hard to come to another country and change.

People come the United States for many reasons. What they want to do, and what they must do are different. They want to stay in their own country and live a good life. They must leave their country for safety and security.

Literacydupage.org

Refugees/story