

What Happens at an Asylum Interview?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqPNa0qpvWo>

what can I expect to happen at my Asylum interview hi I'm Jim hacking immigration lawyer practicing law throughout the United States out of our offices in St Louis San Diego and Washington DC if a foreign National is inside the United States if that's you and you fear persecution if you go back home and you fear that persecution because of some trait about yourself that you can't change or shouldn't have to change like your race your religion your national origin your political opinion or your membership in a particular social group which means a certain class of people if you fear persecution and if that's a credible fear in other words if that's a believable fear then you can make a claim for Asylum inside the United States and so when you apply for Asylum you're going to file a form called an i589 and on that form it's going to go over a lot of your basic background information all of your biographic information your whole life history your family history your um where you've lived that whole history and then there's a bunch of questions dedicated to figuring out why you fear persecution an asylum officer's job is to figure out whether your claim is believable whether they actually believe that you will be persecuted if you go back to your home country so there have been people that have filed thin or bogus or fake Asylum cases and that makes Asylum officers cases harder and that means they have to sift through every application that they get and figure out is this case legit so

what we're going to talk about in today's video is what actually happens at the interview when you go and you meet with the Asylum officer so if you have applied for what's called affirmative Asylum if you are here and You' filed that i589 at some point in the future you're going to have an interview and one thing to keep in mind is that there are a ton of cases in which people applied for Asylum back in 2015 2016 2017 they still have not had their interview and here we are in 2024 so for those people they're most likely going to have to update their case if they get called in for an interview they're going to have to scramble to get new evidence because a lot of things can change in seven or eight years in other words the case sort of had a certain framework back when you filed now it's many years later and you're going to have to update it have things gotten better in your home country have things gotten worse why have they gotten worse what about your life here in the United States are there things that have happened here in the United States that make it even more problematic for you to go back home that's the kind of thing that we're talking about So eventually you're going to get that interview notice and of course you're going to be very nervous when you get it you're going to be meeting with as Asylum officer so they work for the federal government they won't be in a uniform they'll be in business attire and their job is to figure out like I said whether or not your fear is credible whether your fear is believable so when you go into your interview you're going to be sworn and there might be a translator on the phone you can bring a translator

there'll also be a translator who is listening to the conversation to make sure that your translator is translating things correctly if English is your native language then that won't be a problem but for many many Asylum cases you're going to have a translator and you're going to have a translator from the government listening to make sure that everything's done correctly and so the officer is going to begin by going over your application they're going to have out their red pen they're going to go over the whole application to see if there are any corrections that need to be made they'll count up the corrections they might do this electronically on the iPad but you're going to have the opportunity to update your Asylum case and to provide any additional um background information about the case and then they're going to get to the meat of the matter they're going to dig deep into your case and you have to assume that they already know a lot about your country conditions that they already have had cases like yours before that they're already familiar with the way the government works in your country now if you have a country that's sort of uh not a a heavy Asylum country in other words there haven't been a lot of people you might have to do a little bit of education but for the most part the officers will have done their work and they're not going to need for you to tell them why things are bad in your home country they're going to want to focus very quickly on what's the deal with your case what's the reason why you fear persecution what persecution have you experienced in the past that's a really big question past persecution is the best indicator of future persecution

so if you're just saying that oh I think things will be bad if I go back to my home country I really like life in America that's very very different than if you say back when I was in Nepal these are all the horrible things that happen to me and if I go back I have every reason to believe that they're going to happen to me again that's a much stronger Asylum case so the officer is not supposed to be cross-examining you they're not supposed to be attacking you it's supposed to be collegial supposed to be a kind conversation where they're just getting facts now different offices take different approaches different officers take different approaches so you might get the nicest officer in the meanest office or you might get the meanest officer in the nicest office you just never know who you're going to get but you just have to be ready to tell your story to be sincere to be heartfelt if you are scared or if you're sad go ahead and be sad go ahead and be scared this is your moment you've been waiting all this time for your interview to come up this is your chance to tell the US government why they should not make you leave the United States why they should let you stay in the United States put you on a path to a green card through the Asylum process and so hopefully when you're there you'll probably be there about 2 or 3 hours the first hour sort of just a lot of the busy work that it takes to get the case started where they're going over background information then the last hour or two is going to be them really digging deeply into your story they want to hear it all and so we usually tell people don't hold back this is your one chance to tell your whole

story you're basically fighting for your life you're basically fighting for your right to stay in the United States the lawyers can help the lawyers can guide the lawyers can clarify but for the most part you're the star witness you're on stage and you're going to have to explain in your own words through the translator if necessary why you fear going back home and so that's the biggest thing the fear and the persecution fear persecution the the fear is these are the bad things that are going to happen to me and the persecution is I'm sure this is going to happen I'm going to be tortured I'm going to be killed I'm going to be jailed I'm going to be enslaved those are the kinds of things that make a good Asylum case just saying Life's a lot better here in America than it is back home in morania not so much so if you are thinking about applying for a Asylum and we're wanting to work with our office feel free to give us a call 314 961 8200 you can email us info@hackingimmigrationlaw.com you can also uh if you're just looking for free information join us in our Facebook group it's called immigrant home we have thousands and thousands of members in there who are talking about the immigration process the Asylum process all of it uh all the time for free in Facebook we have a YouTube channel if you subscribe to the channel you will get alerted if you click the little Bell and uh subscribe you'll get alerted whenever I make a new video or whenever we go live so we do a live show three or four times a week it's called the immigration answer show and that's just a show where you can come on and ask me any question that you want um and that's go usually

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text link to the waiting room for the
next time I'm going live you can text
the word show to 31447 3300 and then of
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