

women refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina who took the time to speak with us. We are also grateful to Biserka Maradin, Javada Kavic, and Selma Ferhatbegovic for their translation and interpretation services and, Kimberley Jones (Catholic Immigration Centre) for her assistance during the focus group. This project would not have been possible without the financial assistance from Employment and Immigration Canada, Immigration Settlement Branch, Ontario Region, Toronto, Ontario. Special acknowledgement to Ahn Tang, Program Consultant, for her support.

Ivana Linai Filice is an independent consultant working in the areas of immigration and refugee issues; women's rights and human rights; employment equity and publication on gender issues. She is also the co-founder of the Women's Health Project, an organization dedicated to financially and politically supporting grassroots women's groups in Bosnia and Somalia providing emergency services to women under conditions of war.

AIDA FARRAG GRAFF

To A Bosnian Mother

Hot dry tears...
The hackneyed phrase of anguish.
A daughter's screams
That echo in the chambers of a mother's
ears.
A ball of fire rocking back and forth
Between the cradle of her breasts.
Her crime, a crescent smile
That draws the ghouls out from the hills.

The hills that pound, pound, pound,
While statesmen fumble, hem and haw,
Around the niceties of law.

Aida Farrag Graff is a Commissioner with the Ontario Human Rights Commission as well as a Research Associate at Victoria College, the University of Toronto.

Christine Vincent is a research associate at the Research Resource Division for Refugees at Carleton University; editor of the national settlement periodical, *INSCAN*; social research consultant on immigrant and refugee issues; and harried, but appreciative, mother of two.

¹Ethnic cleansing in the context of Bosnia is defined as the practice of targeting other religious and ethnic groups, in this case, Croats and Muslims, for persecution, killing, expulsion and imprisonment in order to rid parts of Bosnia of non-Serb populations.

²RRDR consulted with Dr. Fersada Bajramovic, president of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Medical Relief Fund. and with Amina Adams and Selma Serhatbegovic from the Bosnia-Herzegovina Information Centre.

³Of the eight women in Ottawa, six agreed to participate in the focus group. Two other women from the community participated as translators and interpreters during the session.

⁴Canadian contacts include: Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture, Education Wife Assault, Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre, Interval House of Ottawa-Carleton, Kanata Community Centre, Family Service Centre, Immigrant and Visible Minority Women Against Abuse, Voice of Women, Canadian Council of Muslim Women, Women's Urgent Action, Women Living Under Muslim Laws, Changing Together Immigrant Women's Centre, Settlement Branch of Immigration Department and the UNHCR. American contacts include: Women's Commission on Refugee Women and Children, International Rescue Committee, King County Sexual Assault Resource Centre, Refugee Policy Group and *MS Magazine*.

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