

## **Introductory Story**

Prior to the Refugee Camp Simulation, the Catholic Charities representative will meet with the participants to outline the experience. At that time, the following story can be read to the participants.

During a normal family outing to the center of your village, an airplane swoops low over the rooftops. The tremendous noise startles and frightens you. A few seconds later, a whole formation of airplanes appears in the distance and attacks the town. A number of bombs explode and throw debris everywhere. Heavy smoke fills the street where your family happens to be.

People are screaming, running in every direction. Your family gets separated. It's impossible to see through the dense smoke that's stinging your throat and lungs. You start yelling, hoping to find your family so you can all get away together.

Your village is destroyed. You cannot go back because it is not safe to return. You must gather your family members and belongings and prepare to leave the area immediately. However, it is not safe to wander the area to look for lost family members or you risk becoming lost yourself.

-Sally Lynch & Chris Clements-