United States Court of Appeals

For the Eighth Circuit

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No. 15-2041

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Felix Pedro-Quezada

Petitioner

v.

Loretta E. Lynch, Attorney General of the United States

Respondent

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Petition for Review of an Order of the
Board of Immigration Appeals

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Submitted: February 17, 2016
Filed: February 22, 2016
[Unpublished]

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Before WOLLMAN, ARNOLD, and SMITH, Circuit Judges.

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PER CURIAM.

Felix Pedro-Quezada, a citizen of Honduras, petitions for review of an order of the Board of Immigration Appeals dismissing his appeal from the decision of an immigration judge (IJ) denying him withholding of removal.[1]

Pedro-Quezada challenges the IJ's determination that he failed to establish past persecution, or a well-founded fear of future persecution, based on a protected ground. After careful consideration, we conclude that substantial evidence supports the finding that Pedro-Quezada did not show a clear probability that his life or freedom in Honduras would be threatened upon return, due to a protected ground, see De Castro-Gutierrez v. Holder, 713 F.3d 375, 379-80 (8th Cir. 2013) (standard of review), because the two groups in which he asserts membership are not cognizable as particular social groups for purposes of immigration relief, see Matul-Hernandez v. Holder, 685 F.3d 707, 711-13 (8th Cir. 2012) (individuals returning from United States and perceived as wealthy do not constitute recognized social group); see also Gaitan v. Holder, 671 F.3d 678, 680-82 (8th Cir. 2012) (young males who have rejected or resisted gang recruitment do not constitute recognized particular social group; petitioner was no different than any other citizen who experienced gang violence).

The petition for review is denied. See 8th Cir. R. 47B.

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[1]The IJ also denied his applications for asylum and protection under the Convention Against Torture, but those rulings are not before this court. See Chay-Velasquez v. Ashcroft, 367 F.3d 751, 756 (8th Cir. 2004).

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