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### **Sweden is safe**

Since President Donald Trump called attention to violence in Sweden, we have had American journalists show up here.

One, Tim Pool — funded in part by right-wing editor Paul Joseph Watson who tweeted “Any journalist claiming Sweden is safe; I will pay for travel costs & accommodation for you to stay in crime ridden migrant suburbs of Malmo” — visited Rosengård, Malmö’s toughest immigrant area.

He was followed by Swedish reporters and found what was no surprise to me, an American living in Sweden: “If this is the worst Malmö can offer never come to Chicago.”

Pool claimed Chicago had about 750 murders last year. All of Sweden, which has three times the population of Chicago, had 112 murders in 2015 (the last year for which statistics are available). Malmö, with a population of 330,000, had 12 murders in 2016. Madison, with a population of 243,000 had nine. So per capita, you are about as safe in Malmö as in Madison.

Pool also said after a few hours in Rosengård: “For anyone worried about violence in Malmö and worried that he will be robbed or attacked in Rosengård is ‘löliga’ (ridiculous).” On TV news, he was shown walking in the community and reported it was boring and the only danger he felt was from the ice on the sidewalks.

Sweden, I admit, is not a perfect society: It does have problems keeping ice off the sidewalks, and thousands are injured in falls every year.

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<http://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/readers/2017/03/04/letters-march-walkers-prison-priorities-wrong/98723360/>