

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

30 October 2015

This petition of concerned Clinicians and Health Professionals from around Australia draws to the attention of the House the escalating and increasingly desperate plight of the 205 children currently in immigration detention.

As paediatricians and health care professionals we can say, without doubt, that **detention harms children**, psychologically and developmentally. Australia should not hold these children in detention anywhere. The only way to stop harm is to remove children and their families from detention immediately.

Children should be welcomed into safe communities with their families.

Every day in detention is a day doing more harm.

We therefore ask the House to immediately release these children together with their families from detention.

