

26th July, 2005



The Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament house
Canberra ACT 2600.

Dear Committee Members,

On the 20th October, 2003 at approximately 3:30pm during visiting hours at Villawood Detention Centre I heard a female voice screaming from another razor wired enclosure near by where women were interned. A small built Asian woman was lying on the ground with seven guards standing over her, four guards were holding each arm and leg and three guards appeared to be supervising. The guards were literally dragging her along the concrete ground, as they did so the woman raised her head, continued screaming out words I did not understand and at the same time looked directly into our faces as she continued struggling. A detainee who speaks Chinese told me she was asking us to help her. With razor-back wiring between us I stood there helpless. The detainee then told me the guards do this every morning from 5am when there are no visitors. This was the first time he had witnessed someone being deported in the afternoon. He also told me that the men being deported are handcuffed, the women have an injection forced into the arm after which they stop struggling and are quiet. Sure enough as soon as the woman was dragged through the office door the screaming immediately ceased.

As a palliative care nurse one witnesses people facing death, but I have never in my life faced another human being with such deep fear, as when our eyes met. She knew she would be facing whatever and execution on return to China. That woman's fear will remain in my memory for the rest of my life.

I wrote to Peter King and Bruce Baird describing the above but both politicians sent my letters to the Manager of Villawood Detention Centre and his reply satisfied both Peter and Bruce.

How many detainees have suffered and died because of our Immigration policies. These people sought our help, our compassion and the right to live in Australia but we did not heed their needs. Hopefully, your Senate Inquiry can rectify this heartless attitude to those less fortunate.

Yours hopefully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Moya Turner".

Moya Turner.

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Dear Committee Members,

I have been visiting detainees in Villawood Detention Centre on a weekly basis for the past four years.

The majority of detainees during that period were deported back to the country they had fled because of witnessing family members murdered. In other cases they themselves were tortured, flogged (have witnessed the criss cross of scarring on the back). Others because they were Christians in non-Christian countries I have witness the extreme fear on the faces of detainees.

There have been detainees who never went to Court because they could not afford to or we could not find a 'pro bono' lawyer because there were too many detainees and so few 'pro bono' lawyers.

Throughout the four years I have hoped that some day the truth would be revealed, can that hope ever be realised?.

I have enclosed factual statement on a Hong Kong Chinese business man who has been detained in Villawood Detention Centre for more than three years, whose wife and children are in Hong Kong. I only wish to give you an idea of what detainees are up against when the Immigration Minister decides what people have done without ever allowing consultation between the detainee and the Minister's Department. The Sydney Morning Herald has written an explanatory article on [REDACTED] Wong knows of eight Villawood detainees that Australia has deported to China and resultantly the eight were executed

I have enclosed a brief outline of [REDACTED] situation.

Yours truly,



Moya Turner. RM; RN; WC; JP

**TO SENATE INQUIRY COMMITTEE.
OUTLINE OF [REDACTED] STUDENT VISA PERIOD
FOLLOWED SUDDENTLY BY DETENTION IN VILLAWOOD**

[REDACTED] who lived in Hong Kong with his wife and two children entered Australia in 1999 to undertake the Diploma in Business Studies at the Australian Pacific College in Sydney, leaving his family in Hong Kong

[REDACTED] entered Australia initially on a 'Tourist Visa' and abided by the directives of his visas during the ensuing months keeping in contact with the Department of Immigration whenever needed so as to avoid 'overstaying' of a visa and interruption to his studies.

In February 2002 whilst [REDACTED] was on a 'Bridging Visa E', Department of Immigration personnel came to his home and without explanation transported him to Villawood Detention Centre where he has remained to date.

Barrister who has represented [REDACTED] throughout is Mr. R. B. Wilson Tel. No. 9235-1349 [REDACTED] paid all Court costs until he no longer had money. His barrister then told [REDACTED] he would continue to fight for his release and clear his name of whatever the Chinese Government has accused him.

[REDACTED] appeared in the Federal Court of Australia to contest being incarcerated without cause. [REDACTED] was partially successful and assumed that life and study outside detention could be resumed.

It would appear the previous Minister for Immigration has personally challenged [REDACTED] 'character test' without divulging the content of the matter. This makes it impossible for [REDACTED] legal representation to defend him.

Each time The Federal High Court has demanded that the Immigration Dept divulge the reason for detaining [REDACTED] in Villawood Detention Centre. It would appear that the Chinese Government has given false information against [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] received a character clearance from both Hong Kong and Australia prior to coming to Australia. [REDACTED] has not been accused of any wrong-doing whilst in Australia. **If this man is being punished on personal Ministerial grounds without being in a position to explain or refute the matter in question – where does our Australian justice system stand?**

It is frightening to think that our Judicial System can be overridden without question and that human life can be so devalued in a country thought to be democratic.

Yours faithfully,



Moya Turner RN; RM; WC,JP.