

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

The Migration Amendment (Deisgnated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006

I wish to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the Migration Act. Australians are lectured about Australian values, but we have various interpretations of what these values are. At present, economic success seems to be our predominant value. We are a petty people. Other countries have taken many refugees. Yet we do not want to help people who come to Australia by boat. Most of us are descendants of boat people.

We not only refuse admission to those in need; we lock them up and take away all their rights. We imprison the mentally ill, the sick, the poor and the tortured. What a sad country we are to be so terrified of these poor people.

We do not fulfil our legal international obligations. We bow down to any pressure from countries which we see as influential or powerful.

I would like Australia to accept refugees in need; and arrival by boat should not disqualify people from human rights.

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