

To the Senators,
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee,
Parliament House.

Dear Senators,

I am very concerned at some of the proposals suggested to be included in the Migration Amendment (Designated Arrivals) Bill 2006. As a signatory to the UN Convention our country has agreed to process in Australia persons who arrive on our shores. If deemed those persons to be genuine refugees/asylum seekers they would then be given an appropriate visa and released into the Australian community. If the process reveals persons are not genuine refugees/asylum seekers they would be deported.

I consider it wrongful if these unauthorised arrivals are to be processed away from our country. This would make impossible, and at the very least difficult, visits to those persons during their time of the process by lawyers, friends, and those who may give support during this critical time for them..... especially if the process takes even longer than it has already for those processed in Australia over the last four or five years.

We owe it to people fleeing persecution, torture and war to receive humane treatment, I am embarrassed to think our government is considering these options. I would hope we be fair and just to our fellow human beings.

What is under consideration is a scandalous proposition, Please ensure that it be rejected. Yours sincerely, Kath Morton, Ballarat.