

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee
Parliament House
Canberra
ACT 2600

22/5/2006

Submission to the Inquiry into the Provisions of the Migration Amendment (Designated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006.

In my capacity as an Australian citizen, I record my opposition to this bill.

The provisions in this bill take us backwards towards conditions that existed prior to the Refugee Convention, when people fleeing persecution in Nazi Germany were refused entry by various countries. I oppose the actions of an Australian government taking a similar step in the twenty first century towards people seeking asylum.

I oppose:

- * The denial of access to the Australian refugee determination system with Tribunal and court systems of appeal.
- * The indefinite detention on off-shore locations of men, women and children.
- * The creation of this legislation as a response to criticism of the granting of refugee status to West Papuan asylum seekers.
- * The failure to uphold Australia's international responsibilities within the Refugee Convention.

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