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

This petition of certain ordinary citizens in the north of NSW

draws to the attention of the House:

When Australia signed the Refugee Convention we agreed to provide protection for people who cannot live in safety in their own country. It is a matter of shame to the undersigned that we are dismantling our earlier agreement and building into the processes for asylum seekers and their children "unacceptable risk of unfairness."

We want politicians of all persuasions to know that many ordinary Australians are vehemently opposed to the policy changes at present being proposed.

We therefore ask the House to:

- 1. Cease and desist from asylum seeker policies which are grounded in our own national greed and sense of entitlement.
- 2. Enable us as a wealthy country to give proper attention to our obligations under the United Nations refugee convention.
- 3. Choose a path where our country takes a lead in our region to facilitate speedy and just processing to provide a much greater number of refugees with hope and a future.