

Australia has a responsibility to look after refugees because we have signed the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, but we also have a moral obligation as a country to do what is right and help those less fortunate than ourselves. Recent programs on '6.30 with George Negus' and other current affairs programs have demonstrated the ill treatment of Malaysia's refugees and the lack of connection the enforcing authorities have with those creating the rules. Unaccompanied minors will be in grave danger of sexual assault and all of them will be harassed. I write this because of my concern that any promises of proper treatment by the Malaysian authorities will be proved meaningless, however should they prove effective it will quickly become known that all Malaysian refugees have to do to be far better treated than they are now is to get on a boat to Australia. Should it do what those implementing it say it will do it will open up the floodgates, and we might end up with so many that we will be looking at more than the 0.4% of illegal immigration I believe boats have been.