

Sent: Thursday, 1 April 2010 1:42 PM  
To: Legal and Constitutional, Committee (SEN)  
Subject: "smugglers"

\*For most of my 80 years I have been a faithful ALP member; NOW I am horrified at the new laws to be used against people who SAVE others from harm by bringing them, in boats, to a safe country.

\*\*Mr Hadi Ahmadi assisted in bringing four boats to Australia., and he is now in jail for doing so. His passengers were not "illegal immigrants" but asylum seekers.

It is in accordance with international law and the United Nations Refugee Convention for refugees

to take action and attempt to reach Australia as a Convention country.

Neither should the element

of "breaching the border" be anything that is not in accordance with the Refugee Convention: Australia

has promised not to punish refugees or discriminate against them for "arriving illegally" - under Article 31

of the Convention - regrettably though, Australia remains in blatant breach of the rules laid down in Article 31.

Please free Mr Ahmadi and other so-called "smugglers" and accept and respect them for saving lives.

Erika Stahr, M.Ed., J.P.,

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