

Barcom Glen
Rydal Road
Hampton NSW 2790

8 October 2002

Joint Committee on Migration
Review of Skilled Migration
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for requesting public input into your Review.

I hope you will consider humanitarian interests in your review. Skilled migration is usually harmful to both countries involved in the exchange.

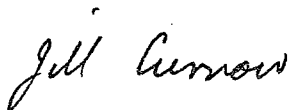
The country of emigration loses one of its most valuable assets -- highly trained personnel, in whom it has invested many years of training. This loss is particularly tragic when it is borne by underdeveloped nations, as it usually is.

The country of immigration will also suffer if it relies on imported expertise. It may neglect to train its own people thus disadvantaging its citizens.

Usually the only people to benefit from skilled migration are ruthless employers who do not wish to pay a wage commensurate with a decent standard of living in the country of immigration. There are cases where employers have deceived governments by claiming they get no response to advertisements for skilled workers. The reason they get no response is because they advertise the positions at ridiculously low wages. They thus give a false picture of a "shortage" of workers with this particular skill.

Humanitarian interests are rarely served by skilled migration, and I hope this fact will feature prominently in your deliberations.

Yours sincerely,



Jill Curnow