

As a psychiatric nurse and travelled citizen of this country I am highly concerned about the treatment of people in detention centres. As it appears to me the people who find themselves in detention have few rights and are treated as if they are something less than people (this is a situation encouraged by the use of language that refers to them in such terms as "illegals").

If you consider that these people have already suffered high levels of trauma in their country of origin the last thing they need is to be treated with suspicion and left to psychologically rot in a prison. They are not criminals, they are the victims of a tubulent and violent world, they need compassion and generosity not vilification.

There is a great spirit of freedom in this country but we cannot imagine that we are free when we continue to imprison innocent men women and children.

Tim Allen

Seddon

Victoria