

4/25/02

Senator the Honourable Chris Ellison  
Acting Minister for Immigration

Re: <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2002/04/23/1019441244807.html>

Dear Senator Ellison,

I have read the Age's account of realities in the Woomera Detention Centre seen and experienced by St Kilda psychologist Lyn Bender, psychiatric nurse Glenda Koutroulis, and psychologist Kerry Zeeher.

As Acting Minister for Immigration in the absence overseas of the Minister, you are responsible for the torturous practices there.

These practices are barbaric. They resemble the worst days of the penal colonies of Port Arthur. They are indefensible.

You are responsible, minute by minute, for administering these camps. You are responsible, minute by minute, for inflicting that suffering.

What, as a human being, are you going to do?

Faithfully,

M. F. McAuliffe

cc The Hon. Philip Ruddock, Minister for Immigration  
The Rt. Hon. John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia