

20th May 2006

Mr Jonathan Curtis
Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Via email: legcon.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir,

**Inquiry into the
Provisions of the Migration Amendment
(Designated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006**

I make this submission for consideration by the Committee in respect of these amendments.

It is a round of amendments that leaves one feeling sick at the lack of humanity displayed towards these people seeking help from their nearest neighbour. This is clearly aimed at those who suffer torture and oppression on our doorstep by our nearest neighbour.

The proposal is both Un-Australian and cowardly. It is morally blameworthy. However, that is not surprising where both sides of politics have supported draconian and inhuman treatment of refugees. Australia should be ashamed of itself. In particular, Howard, may he soon depart the leadership of this country, has taken Australia far from the notion of a fair go and is trying to turn Australia into a little America. And now he kow tows to rumblings from Indonesia – what a gutless wonder he is. Shame on him and his sidekicks Ruddock the heartless and Vanstone the deplorable.

I have little doubt this legislation will pass, but it is to our shame as a nation that has in the past welcomed many to these shores. Hopefully the apathy of the voters that allow these human rights abuses to continue will be shaken off and the electorate will waken to its moral obligations. For one thing is certain, we cannot leave it to our politicians.

As Deren would say, Shame, shame, shame.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Hurrey