

Unfair, unjust: Turnbull and Shorten take note

28 June 2016

Sent to: The Editor letters@couriermail.com.au

As kids, the injustice of punishing the whole class for the naughtiness of one or two, cut deep.

And it offends us when men women and children are incarcerated on Nauru and Manus for years and only because they came by boat, instead of plane, to ask for our protection. Punishing them, the innocent victims, to send a message to others is wrong, especially during a global refugee crisis and when most are (finally, after deliberate incompetent delay) confirmed to be refugees.

Turnbull and Shorten still avoid the issue. The innocent people we transported like criminals to Nauru and Manus and whom those mendicant Governments legally determined to be refugees, CANNOT go home. They have no safe home. Settlement in PNG or Nauru is unsustainable and unsafe.

So bring them here and try to make up for the injustice and damage done to them and their loved ones.

Frederika E Steen AM (Immigration officer 1984-2001)

Unfair, unjust: Turnbull and Shorten take note

28 June 2016

Sent to: The Editor letters@smh.com.au

As kids, the injustice of punishing the whole class for the naughtiness of one or two, cut deep.

And it offends us when men women and children are incarcerated on Nauru and Manus for years and only because they came by boat, instead of plane, to ask for our protection. Punishing them, the innocent victims, to send a message to others is wrong, especially during a global refugee crisis and most are confirmed to be refugees.

Yes, please do destroy the exploiters of human misery in Indonesia. Destroy the business profits of dangerous boat journeys for desperate people.

And resume the orderly, controlled and safe resettlement of refugees whom the UNHCR in Jakarta has determined to be refugees, and who cannot go home, nor reasonably stay in indefinite transit.

Settlement in Fair Australia, a nation built on immigration, is part of a regional solution.

Most of us did not know Scott Morrison had (from 1 July two years ago) arbitrarily ceased that safe pathway in our "generous" Humanitarian Program (of 13 750

people) when the Migration Program runs at around 200 000 permanent settlers a year.

The anguish of this shameful inhumane asylum seeker policy must end.
Are we not better world citizens than this?

Frederika E Steen AM (Immigration officer 1984-2001)