

# Creative Writing

To the Editor,

As the Taliban has been driven out of Kabul after the September 11 crisis, life over there has been better, but it is still very poor. After being bombed the Afghan people have been forced to leave the family, friends, home and even society. Who determines what people are worth being in a country like Australia. These people are coming to Australia illegally because they can't afford to get here properly. Back in the 17<sup>th</sup> century Australia's population was made up of hard core criminals that came here on death traps, what's the difference here. These Afghan people are not criminals or queue jumpers they are just poor people who need a new start and a society that accepts them.

These people are being treated like criminals, discriminated against like criminals and are being spat at like common criminals. They have been placed in the Nauru detention center for just simply wanting a new start for themselves and their family. These people have desperately tried to get out of the detention center that they have been forced to go on hunger strikes, by sewing their mouth together, and even jumped off the roof of the detention center. It's worse in there than at home, they came here to escape not be captured. The Afghan people are categorized as 'the asylum seekers.' Asylum meaning refuge and safety, and Seekers meaning trying to find or obtain.

These definitions are very easy to understand. It means that these Afghan people are trying to obtain refuge and safety for themselves and their families. As I said before, who determines what kind of people are worth being in a country like Australia, is it the government, the media or even the public. These people need to know that they are expected.

By all this bad publicity towards them, you'd think they were rapist's roaming the streets. Even though they have done absolutely nothing to deserve the treatment they are getting.

The government knew what kind of boats these people were coming to Australia on and they chose to ignore it. There were too many people on these sinking boats and they did nothing about it but leave them to rot. People were being thrown overboard and were jumping overboard. Mr. John Howard knew every single horrible thing that was happening on these death traps but because of the upcoming election he let it slide. And look at what happened, a lot of innocent people died.

I would just like to know why, in Australia we get treated like kings and queens and the Afghan people are treated like animals because they were born in their country. There is nothing wrong with these people, except their poor society and the way they are named as queue jumpers, and that is definitely not their fault.

These people have been forced to come to Australia very quickly. They can not afford to become Australian citizens, they have not got the money or the time. This was the only way out of that hell-raising life they have at home. Let's not send them back there but make this their home. There is not a shortage of space in Australia and until there is let them stay and have a new start with their friends and family. These Afghan people can work here, get paid and even pay taxes for our government. In the future it will work out better for both sides. Everyone knows that people from these sort of countries are the best workers you can get. They work for their life. They deserve work and a life. They would probably work better than an Australian worker any day. If these people come to work for our country then it would be great for them and for our economy.

So as I conclude to this letter, I say please give these people a chance to live.

To live a life that they love, and to live in a society that just simply loves them back.

Yours Sincerely,

Ryan Else

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