

# STAND UP FOR REFUGEES

The Australian government has the harshest anti-asylum seeker regime of any western country: mandatorily detaining hundreds of asylum seekers who arrived by boat on the Australian coastline.

It uses intimidation and psychological torture to encourage asylum seekers to return to their troubled homelands, rather than remain locked up indefinitely here while their applications for refugee status are heard.

It also uses international flights to deport asylum seekers, despite the risk of tragic outcomes:

- In 1997, a Chinese woman, 8 months pregnant, was returned to mainland China: the pregnancy was forcibly terminated under the country's "one child policy";
- In 2002, Australia deported 2 Columbian asylum seekers: on return, Alvaro Morales was killed and Didi Balanta 'disappeared';
- In February this year, Afghan refugee Habib Wahedy committed suicide rather than risk being deported when his temporary protection visa (TPV) expired in April.

There may be asylum seekers being deported on your flight.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Ask counter staff and flight attendants whether any asylum seekers are being deported on your flight. If a deportation is occurring, call \*\*\*\*\* immediately to notify anti-deportation activists.
- Ask the airline about their policy on deportation. Explain your intent to boycott airlines that are complicit in this policy.
- If a deportation is occurring on your flight, once on board the plane STAND UP and encourage other passengers to stand up. Tell flight attendants that you will sit down once deportees have been removed from the plane. The plane is unable to depart until passengers are seated.
- Join the anti-deportation campaign in your home country (\*\*website details).

## HOW TO RECOGNISE A DEPORTATION:

- Shackled or sedated individuals accompanied by at least one other person.
- Such people being seated before anyone else on the flight.
- Such people being seated at the rear of the plane.

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