

## #KidsOffNauru

### **Did you know that Australia has been holding more than 100 children and their families on Nauru for over 5 years?**

Nauru is a tiny island state with a resident population of around 10,000 people, and land area half the size of Melbourne airport, most of which was a phosphate mine for decades. This is where over 1,000 people have been held in limbo by Australia since 2013, many living in mouldy tents in extreme heat and humidity – including a number of children born into this cruelty.

**Why are these people being held on Nauru?** In July 2013 the Australian Government decided no one seeking asylum who travelled to Australia by boat would be resettled in here. Detention centres on Nauru and Manus Island were reopened, and people were sent ‘offshore’ - instead of allowing them to arrive in Australia and processing their claims for refugee status in a reasonable way. ***This contravenes the Refugee Convention, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.*** Shamefully our government did a deal with Cambodia – one of the poorest countries in the world- to try to get people to go there, and New Zealand has offered to resettle some of these people but our government says NO. This is deliberate cruelty. In the last 2 years about 300 people have been resettled in the US, but nearly 800 remain on Nauru. **Many of these people are permanently separated from spouses or children who are stranded elsewhere - many, including children are deeply depressed, and some are suicidal.** The Australian government has refused to bring them here for medical treatment, except where the High Court has made an order. This is truly shameful.

**Why do people to come to Australia to seek asylum?** Under the Refugee Convention, people have the right to seek asylum in any other country if their lives are at risk, or they are persecuted for their beliefs or ethnicity in their homeland.

**There is no justification for holding people on Nauru – concerned community members across Australia are calling for these children and their families to be brought to safety.**

#### **YOU CAN HELP:**

- Call and/or email the Prime Minister, Minister Peter Dutton, Opposition Leader Bill Shorten and Shadow Minister Shayne Neumann
- Call or visit your local MP
- Encourage your friends to do the same
- Join an action near you

For further background and information on how to take action:

[www.kidsoffnauru.com/](http://www.kidsoffnauru.com/)  
[www.australianrefugeeactionnetwork.wordpress.com/kidsoffnauru/](http://www.australianrefugeeactionnetwork.wordpress.com/kidsoffnauru/)

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# #KIDSOFF NAURU

The world's refugee crisis is a complex problem but  
**Locking up children is NEVER the answer**

Over 100 children are in limbo on Nauru  
with no hope for their future

**You can make a difference**

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- Call the Prime Minister
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