

CLOSE THE CAMPS,

BRING THE REFUGEES

HERE.

RALLY // SAT 27 AUG 1PM // STATE LIBRARY



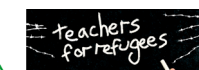
close Manus &
Nauru, bring
them here

permanent
protection not
temporary visas

end Islamophobic
scapegoating

boat rescues not
boat turnbacks

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT LUCY: 0404 728 104, www.rac-vic.org,
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MELBOURNE CATHOLIC
MIGRANT & REFUGEE OFFICE





AFTER THE ELECTION, INCREASE THE PRESSURE TO CLOSE THE CAMPS

During the election, Malcolm Turnbull and Immigration Minister Peter Dutton tried to use the refugee issue to win votes. But despite the scare campaign, the election was far from an endorsement of Turnbull.

The Coalition only narrowly avoided election defeat and holds the thinnest of majorities.

The end of August marks 15 years since the Tampa affair, when then Liberal Prime Minister John Howard sent the SAS onto the Tampa to stop a boatload of refugees reaching Australia. Now the Coalition's promises to "stop the boats" and keep out refugees are no longer the winning electoral formula they seemed in the past.

MANUS ISLAND SET TO CLOSE

The system of offshore detention is facing a major crisis over Manus Island. On 26 April the PNG Supreme Court held that detention on Manus Island was unlawful and the detention centre would have to close.

Further court action in PNG is under way, in an effort to force both PNG and Australia to act on the ruling. But there is nowhere else for the Manus asylum seekers and refugees to come except Australia. The same is true on Nauru, where there are no arrangement for permanent resettlement of those found to be refugees. We need to keep up the pressure to demand the government "*Bring them here*".

And we need to demand all refugees receive permanent visas, not Temporary Protection Visas where the threat of being sent back to danger hangs over them.

The tide of public opinion is shifting. A strong majority of people now want those found to be refugees on Manus Island and Nauru to come to Australia. And the overwhelming majority have found to be refugees.

The 267 asylum seekers in Australia from Nauru and Manus Island have still not been returned to Manus or Nauru, thanks to the "Let them stay" movement earlier this year. However at least one of those 267 has been taken to Christmas Island. We need to step up the pressure to close the camps and bring them all here.

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