

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of certain students of Santa Maria College

draws to the attention of the House the current asylum seeker legislation and debate, pertaining to those seeking asylum in Australia by arriving on boats from Indonesia. Current asylum seeker policy of both the government and opposition fail to ensure for the just, fair and humane treatment of these people.

We therefore ask the House to ensure that any amendments to existing legislation and any future legislation upholds the standards set by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which Australia is a signatory. In particular, the standards of:

Article 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 5: No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

Article 14: Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

Article 25: Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and the necessary social services.