



ChilOut - Children Out of Immigration Detention

Media Release – for immediate release

11 October, 2010

Children must be released from detention

ChilOut, a citizens group campaigning on behalf of children in immigration detention, says that kids must be released from detention immediately. ChilOut also calls on the Minister to come clean to the Australian public about the conditions children are being kept in.

"The Minister would have us believe that no kids are in detention simply because they no longer use razor wire. The sad fact is, over 650 children are being detained right now, most of them in remote centres without adequate education, counselling or community support." Alanna Hector, spokesperson for ChilOut said.

"Medical advisors to the Government, such as Dr Louise Newman, have warned that a crisis is coming. Children in detention will soon be exhibiting symptoms of extreme psychological distress, such as self-harm. We ask the Government heed those warnings, and act quickly to protect these vulnerable kids from the harm that long-term detention has been proven to cause." Ms Hector said.

ChilOut asks that the Government work constructively with the welfare sector to immediately release children from detention.

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ChilOut (Children Out Of Immigration Detention) is a group of parents and citizens opposed to the mandatory detention of children in Australian immigration detention centres.

www.chilout.org