



**Justice for
Refugees SA**

Media Release - Immediate

Home affairs minister Dutton ‘malicious and inhumane’

Justice for Refugees SA Chairperson, Rev Sandy Boyce, said statements yesterday by Home Affairs minister Peter Dutton took the government to a new low in deliberately prolonging the suffering of refugees held offshore on Manus and Nauru.

“By choosing World Refugee Day to attack the motives of seriously sick refugees detained on Manus and Nauru shows the malicious intent of the minister and exposes just how inhumane this government is”, Rev Boyce said.

“To try and deny refugees the healthcare they urgently need on World Refugee Day beggars belief. And questioning the motives and reputations of doctors giving their time to provide humanitarian assistance is excessive and unforgivable”, she added.

Rev Boyce said that contrary to the government’s alarmist and reckless statements the Medevac legislation hasn’t caused a flood of medical transfers, though it has exposed the lengths the government is prepared to go to continue the cruelty.

“Offshore detention and processing has caused significant mental and physical damage to innocent people. The government and Parliament should not only continue to support the provisions of the Medevac Bill, but work towards ending offshore detention altogether”, Rev Boyce said.

J4RSA is lobbying MPs and Senators from South Australia to strongly oppose repeal of Medevac provisions passed into law in February this year.

Rev Sandy Boyce is also President of the Diakonia World Federation and is presently at a meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland. To arrange an interview please contact:

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