Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers

Stop the 2004 Asylum Bill

We the undersigned are opposed to proposals:
1) Which would see asylum seekers being threatened with the removal of their children if they refused repatriation
2) To jail asylum seekers who arrive in the UK without documents
3) To exclude our courts from exercising their constitutional function of overseeing the Home Secretary's decisions re asylum seekers
4) To reduce drastically legal aid, and therefore, legal representation, to those seeking asylum
5) To tag asylum seekers
6) To extend the Home Secretary's powers to remove asylum seekers without giving any consideration to their asylum claim.

If they become law, these proposals will worsen significantly the already terrible situation facing asylum seekers, undermine international conventions on asylum, and give unprecedented and unchecked powers to the Home Secretary to make life and death decisions.

The claim that they will combat an increasingly vocal far right agenda is fallacious. The proposals simply adopt that agenda, and can only encourage those that speak to it.

Moreover, this response to the far right can only encourage the targeting of other vulnerable minorities in our community.

We demand the Home Secretary and government withdraw the bill in its entirety.

Name	Address	Tel no/e-mail address

Return to Home Secretary David Blunkett, Home Office, 50 Queen Annes Gate, SW1.
Please send a copy to the CDAS (address below)

Contact the Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers: Write to CDAS, BCM Box 4289, London WC1X 3XX ● e-mail info@defend-asylum.org ● website www.defend-asylum.org