Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers

End dispersal now!
End racist murders!

TWENTY TWO year old Firsat Yildiz was stabbed to death by racists in Glasgow on 5 August. He was a young Kurd fleeing state terrorism and torture. His death was followed two days later by the racist knifing of an Iranian asylum seeker on the same estate.

This is what the race card leads to—racist attacks and racist murder.

There has been a marked rise in racist attacks across the country in the months following the general election, particularly in areas where asylum seekers have been dispersed.

Now the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has damned sections of the British press and politicians for whipping up hatred against asylum seekers.

Every racist speech and every racist headline leads to violence and intolerance.

The government's asylum seeker policies are disastrous:

- Dispersal results in thousands of vulnerable people being dumped in deprived areas suffering high unemployment.
- The voucher system stigmatises asylum seekers and condemns them to poverty.
- Detention criminalises them and isolates them even more from society.

These policies reinforce the racist tensions whipped up by the media.

New Labour's response to the rise in racism against refugees is to demand quicker deportation and increased numbers in detention—actions which can only encourage yet more hostility from racists.

We, the undersigned, demand an end to forced dispersal, detention and deportation, and for vouchers to be replaced with full cash benefits.

THIS STATEMENT WILL BE REPRODUCED IN THE *GUARDIAN*

Name	E-mail address	Union/organisation	Donation (to pay for advert)

Return to: Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers, BCM Box 4289, London WC1X 3XX. Make all cheques and POs payable to 'Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers'.