

What is with... **BILL C-49** ?



BILL C-49 IS ILLEGAL:

Detention without review **VIOLATES** the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which applies to all human beings, including migrants!

Punishing refugees for entering Canada illegally **VIOLATES** the Refugee Convention (article 31), which Canada has signed! Refugees don't have a choice; they are fleeing for their lives!

Denying refugees freedom of movement **VIOLATES** the Refugee Convention which states that all governments must give refugees a travel document in order to allow them to travel outside the country (article 28)!

The elected government has proposed changes to immigration rules through Bill C-49. The government says the bill is about stopping smugglers bringing people illegally into Canada. But in fact the bill proposes changes that will punish the people being smuggled - including refugees fleeing to save their lives. If the bill passes, it would allow the Minister of Public Safety to "designate" a group of people if they "suspect" that the group has been smuggled into Canada for profit. The bill does not define "group" - so it could be as few as 2 people or a family.

Once a group of migrants is designated, everyone in the group is punished and will be:

- **JAILED.** Detention will continue for a minimum of 1 YEAR without a review, if the person is not deported or recognized as a refugee first. This includes children, the pregnant, and the elderly.
- **DENIED** access to adequate health care
- **DENIED** permanent residence for 5 YEARS, even after being recognized as a refugee
- **BARRED** from reuniting with their families for 5 YEARS (including their husband/wife and children) after gaining refugee status
- **DENIED** the right to leave Canada for 5 YEARS after gaining refugee status
- **DENIED** the right to appeal their refugee claim if it is rejected

THIS IS CLEARLY AN ANTI-REFUGEE BILL!



Canadian Council for Refugees
Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés

But seriously...

Will Bill C-49 discourage people from using smugglers? NO. People turn to smugglers because they are desperate – often because they are persecuted and need to escape. Also, people who flee as refugees rarely know about the laws in the country to which they go. Sometimes they don't even know which country they are going to when they start their journey.

What should our members of parliament do? Members of Parliament should vote against Bill C-49 at second reading. The government should address the problem of smuggling in ways that do not punish refugees.

What can you do? Contact your Member of Parliament and ask them to vote against the bill. Hurry, the vote is very soon! Go to: ccrweb.ca/en/c49.

Say NO to Bill C-49: the anti-refugee bill

- CALL
- WRITE
- EMAIL
- MEET
- RALLY



TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT REFUGEE RIGHTS!



For more information on Bill C-49 and other matters visit:
www.ccrweb.ca

