

# CAAH

## VILLAWOOD PROTEST



## QUEER BLOC

**Easter April 14-17th 2006**

In a world where out of 204 countries where information is known about laws relating to queer identifying people

77 countries (50 for lesbians) carry punishment.

9 of them are known to still carry the death penalty.

8 carry life imprisonment

Comin out is hard enough but imagine coming out to the Refugee Review Tribunal when your life is on the line.

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Comin out is hard enough but imagine coming out to the Refugee Review Tribunal when your life is on the line.

Associate professor Jenni Millbank has identified 200 cases of people seeking asylum in Australia on the basis of homophobic persecution between 1996 and 2000. Until 2003 refugees fleeing from homophobic persecution were not even considered for asylum in this country being housed in separate compounds in the Villawood detention centre because queer couples were not recognised.

The refugee couple, complainants in the landmark 2003 High Court case fled Bangladesh from homophobic persecution. Their families disowned them and they were housed in separate compounds in Villawood detention centre (because queer couples are not recognised). The High Court found that queer identifying people were not safe even if they were discreet about their sexuality.

The Refugee Review Tribunal has some strange ideas of what it means to be gay. One Iranian was denied asylum because he hadn't heard of Madonna. Even if refugees can prove they were tortured by homophobes, they are being denied asylum if they can't prove they are gay.

The refugee rights movement had some important victories last year. Let's keep fighting until we win. Stand up for queer refugees.

**COME TO VILLAWOOD DETENTION CENTER !**

**FRIDAY (14th April)**

11.30am Villawood Detention Center Convergence.

**SATURDAY (15th April)**

10.30am **Mass protest, Miowera Rd gate**

3-9pm Multicultural festival (bands, food & Speakers)

**SUNDAY (16th April)**

10.30am Direct action at Miowera Rd.

3-9pm, Refugee movement conference.

**MONDAY (17th April)**

10.30am: protest at Miowera Rd. Pack up after lunch.

4:30pm Nigerian Sexuality Criminalisation Protest

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Community Action Against Homophobia (CAAH)

CAAH\_Sydney-owner@yahoo.com

Farida I, 0412109160 & Simon M, 0438637037

NSW Queer Sexuality Network (NSW QSN)

Karlee J, 0401664858 & Michelle S, 0410166456

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