



# The Impact of Detention on the Mental Health of Asylum Seekers

**A Public Forum with guest speaker  
Professor Derrick Silove and presentations from  
former detainees and ASeTTS' staff,  
working with detainees**



**Date:**

23 June 2011  
6:30pm-8:30pm

**Venue:**

BankWest Lecture  
Theatre,  
Building 200  
Curtin University,  
Bentley Campus

**Parking**

Available in Curtin  
Car Park 3  
Enter via the main  
entrance on  
Kent St and follow  
the signs

Asylum seekers and Federal Government policy regarding the managing of arrivals and processing claims for refugee status are once again receiving avid media attention. Recent months have seen deaths, suicide attempts, rooftop protests and other desperate responses by detainees within the Australian mandatory detention system. The media focus has been on the politics and myths surrounding boat arrivals and the overcrowding and associated problems in detention centres. The impact of the detention experience on the detainees themselves, however, has received scant attention in the mainstream media. Our forum will explore this topic with detainees and former detainees together with presentations by experts, those working in the field.

**Professor Derrick Silove**, M.B Ch.B (Hons I), M.D FRANZCP is Director of the Psychiatry Research and Teaching Unit at Liverpool Hospital in New South Wales. He specialises in the area of mass trauma, transcultural psychiatry and refugee and post conflict mental health. He has published over 200 journal articles and numerous other publications including book chapters, monographs and major reports. He and his team are at the forefront of research in the field of refugee and post-conflict mental health worldwide and he has been a consultant for a range of international agencies including the WHO, UNHCR and World Federation for Mental Health.



Welcome and introduction by **Mrs Janet Holmes à Court**, Patron of ASeTTS.

**Heidi Kleinschmidt** is Manager, Detention Health Counselling Services at ASeTTS and oversees a team of counsellors working at the Leonora APOD and Curtin IDC.

**Marnie Williams** is a Counsellor/Advocate at ASeTTS who has worked with many asylum seekers in detention.

**Please RSVP to [events@curtin.edu.au](mailto:events@curtin.edu.au) or 9266 2563 by 17 June.**

Follow this link for a map of Curtin's Bentley Campus:

[http://properties.curtin.edu.au/maps/?utm\\_source=global\\_util&utm\\_medium](http://properties.curtin.edu.au/maps/?utm_source=global_util&utm_medium)



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