



Dr. Aileen Crowe

*Refugee Pastoral Care & Advocacy
Justice of the Peace*

New Book Exposes How Australia Fails Refugees - And Fails Itself

A new book by Sister Aileen Crowe – entitled “Acts Of Cruelty” - provides a withering account on how Australia’s refugee policies continually places it outside international law.

Sister Aileen has helped refugees and their families for almost 25 years and before that worked as a missionary in PNG for 18 years.

The book – to be launched in Sydney by former High Court judge Michael Kirby next week – focuses on refugees who arrive here by air.

Sister Aileen says human rights law needs to be firmly embedded in the Australian legal system before societal change is possible.

“If parliamentarians continue to introduce laws with cruel and unfair consequences, judges will continue to be constrained, tribunal reviewers will continue to be morally corrupt, and departmental assessors will continue to improve their performance ratings through fake assessment practices.”

Kirby describes the book as “uplifting” – a story of human endeavour to help people tackle the challenge of arriving with valid entry visas who then claim protection under international convention.

He says Sister Aileen has never forgotten the central message of the religion that has nurtured her when confronted with the claims of the vulnerable stranger who needs protection and a new life where that claim can be justified.

He concludes: “I suspect, we will look back at the present time with disappointment at the way our generations have dealt with refugees and those who claim the protection promised for that status. When that time comes, and in a new enlightenment, people like Sister Aileen Crowe will be celebrated. They will be honoured among the righteous of the Australian nation.”

Acts of Cruelty published by Palaver Books. Available in bookstores or direct from publishers:
www.palaver.com/contact (0405 578 968)

Refugee Week Melbourne launch: New International Bookshop, Trades Hall, 54 Victoria Street Carlton. 6-8pm Tuesday 21 June 2022. **Register:** <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/acts-of-cruelty-book-talk-ticks-345142880647> Free event.

Friends have created a [facebook page](#), [twitter](#) account and [linktree](#) for the book. Facebook handle is @ActsofCruelty. Twitter is @AileenCAuthor. **Media contact:** Sally Gardner, m. 0405 578 968

Aileen Crowe 18th June 2022

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ACTS OF CRUELTY

Australia's Immigration Laws
and
experiences of people seeking protection
after arriving by plane

FOREWORD BY MICHAEL KIRBY AC CMG

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