

We do not advocate for more humane politicians or laws. We demand an end to detentions and deportations and the violence of all cages of control. We demand the abolition of exploitative temporary worker programs. We demand workers control over their own production, not corporate wage-slave conditions that devalues human beings especially women. We demand status for all those who have been deemed illegal in order to justify theft of their labour. From Turtle Island to Afghanistan, we demand the dismantling of Fortress North America and its border security pacts as well as the global military industry, all of which create and justify fear and repression.

We say this because we challenge the very notion that some people are more deserving of a fulfilling life than others. Ideologies of worthiness are based on racism and domination that has justified the dehumanization and genocide of peoples across the world. Instead, we assert the basic principle of self-determination. That people have the right to remain in their homes in the face of global displacement due to land theft, occupation, and other capitalist and imperialist forces. That in light of the freedom afforded to capital and to armies, people are free to move whether due to persecution or poverty, or simply in order to flourish with dignity. That people have the inherent right to return to the lands of which they have been unjustly dispossessed.

Canada and its economy are built on the theft of Indigenous lands, exploitation of labour especially slave, migrant, and reproductive labour, and the appropriation of natural resources globally. The ongoing apartheid reality instituted through reserves and sweatshops is one that must be fundamentally uprooted and transformed. We envision a humanity where everyone has the right to sustenance and the ability to provide it, where we are free of oppression, misery, and exploitation, and are able to live meaningfully in relationship to one another and in reverence for Mother Earth that sustains us.

**No One Is Illegal,
the System is Illegal!**



Contact us via email at noii-van@resist.ca
Visit us at www.nooneisillegal.org to find out more about Fire Kenney and other campaigns, or to join our email list.



THE PEOPLE V. JASON KENNEY

Freedom to move
Right to stay, and to Return
We are many

Minister of Censorship and Deportation Jason Kenney's Record

Migrants and asylum seekers are facing greater difficulties with fundamental shifts in immigration and refugee policy under Kenney. Deportations from Canada have skyrocketed 50 % over the last decade, with 13,000 deportations in the past year.

Since the Conservatives have been in power, the number of approved asylum claims has dropped by 56%. Kenney's 2009 report reveals a decreasing "target" of 11,000 people who will be accepted refugees and sponsored family members.

Kenney's recent refugee reforms create two-tier of refugees, a racist system based on nationality. These changes also download financial and social support of 2,000 refugees to private organizations, and drastically limit certain legal avenues available to refugee claimants. What Kenney is misleadingly declaring a 'much-needed overhaul', is actually a dismantling of an already minimal refugee protection system. The 'refugee case backlog' that Kenney refers to is one created by the Tories themselves by understaffing the Immigration and Refugee Board; in fact, one of the few appointments that Kenney did make to the Board was a known anti-gay activist.

In 2009 Kenney imposed visa requirements on Mexico and the Czech Republic by suggesting refugees from those countries were "system-abusers". Though subsequently all released, Kenney justified the two-month long detention of 76 Tamil asylum seekers in B.C. by falsely suggesting they were 'security threats'.

Habtom Kibraeb, an Eritrean refugee, committed suicide in Halifax from fear of a pending deportation in March 2010. In December 2008, a 24-year-old woman was deported to Mexico, where she was murdered. She had applied for asylum in Canada twice. This tragedy occurred while Kenney was imposing visa requirements on Mexicans.

As avenues for refugees and permanent residency are decreasing, temporary worker programs have proliferated under Kenney. Always under the threat of deportation, workers endure long hours, low pay, and lack of basic labour protections. Permanently Temporary: this is the immigration model that corporations dream of. More people are now admitted under Temporary Employment Authorizations than as permanent residents, further eroding the myth of Canadian benevolence. In October 2009, the federal government proposed major changes to Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program. One regulation limits workers to a term of four years, after which a six-year ban will be imposed before workers can return.

To ensure a constant state of fear and vulnerability, Kenney has also overseen at least 8 work-place raids in Ontario, where Canadian Border Service Agency officers have stormed farms, factories, and homes. The largest immigration raid took place in April 2009 when over 100 non-status and migrant workers were arrested and most were deported.

In addition to significant policy changes, Kenney has defended a series of oppressive comments that have deeply influenced public discourse:

- >> Based on his roots in the conservative Canadian Tax Payers Federation, Kenney wants provincial governments to curb social assistance – already grossly inadequate - to refugee claimants.
- >> He declared that he will get tough on immigrants who do not integrate or speak the colonial languages of English and French.
- >> He has said that he will not tolerate refugee claimants who are "bogus". He is currently the subject of a Federal Court inquiry on whether such public statements have interfered with the independence of the Immigration and Refugee Board.
- >> He supports Quebec's Bill C-94 that discriminately denies women who wear the niqab access to essential public services including health and education, thus perpetuating gender inequality by forcing what not to wear on them.
- >> He spoke against a UN report documenting poverty, discrimination, and racial profiling in Canada.

Such comments and beliefs are not simply harmless free speech. In 2009, Kenney introduced a new citizenship guide which listed the obligations of citizenship as including getting a job. Notably omitted is mention of the rights of lesbian, gay, and trans people. It was later revealed that Kenney had deliberately removed LGBT references from the guide. The guide does, however, make ample room for Canada's military history, including a recruitment advertisement.

Kenney has also played a key role in influencing foreign policy by:

- >> Labelling Iraq war resisters as bogus refugee claimants.
- >> Barring British MP George Galloway because of his opposition to the military occupation of Afghanistan.
- >> Pulling Canada out of the World Conference Against Racism.
- >> Cutting ESL funding to the Canadian Arab Federation due to their involvement in pro-Palestinian efforts.

It's time to give Kenney the boot !



- 1) Organize a picket or rally if Jason Kenney comes to your town.
- 2) Download this pamphlet and other multilingual campaign materials including popular posters from our website and spread the word!
- 3) Be informed about events, actions, and news by visiting our website.
- 4) Plan a community forum to raise awareness about the issues affecting migrants and the changes in immigration and refugee policies.
- 5) Always comment on online news stories, send a letter to the Editor, or write your local MP regarding Kenney. Keep it short: "Minister Kenney is a racist, anti-immigrant, war-mongering Conservative. The Minister of Censorship and Deportation has got to go!"
- 6) Write Kenney at kennej@parl.gc.ca and tell him what you think!