



A **STUDY GUIDE** BY ANNE CHESHER



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INTRODUCTION

This three-part documentary series produced for SBS informs and provokes discourse across all sectors of Australian society as the nation continues to deal with the complex international issue of the humanitarian care of refugees and asylum seekers.

In the documentary, six ordinary Australians agree to challenge their preconceived notions about refugees and asylum seekers by embarking on a confronting 25-day journey. Tracing in reverse the journeys that refugees have taken to reach Australia, they travel to some of the most dangerous and desperate corners of the world, with no idea what is in store for them along the way.

Deprived of their wallets, phones and passports, they board a leaky refugee boat, are rescued mid-ocean, experience immigration raids in Malaysia, live in a Kenyan refugee camp and visit slums in Jordan before ultimately making it to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq, protected by UN Peacekeepers and the US military. For some of them it is their first time abroad. For all of them, it is an epic journey and the most challenging experience of their lives.

This controversial series follows the participants over one month as they are confronted with the harsh realities of life as a refugee in their journey to some of the most dangerous and desperate regions of the world.

The series presents six participants from different backgrounds and with different viewpoints, providing six contentious perspectives that will challenge and test students' attitudes.

Teachers of Geography, SOSE, HSIE, History, Values and Religion will embrace this invaluable classroom resource to incite learning and debate about this complex issue that continues to divide our nation.

CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

As a comprehensive resource for teachers and students of Australian secondary schools, *Go Back to Where You Came From* is specific to the study of Geography, but it also has cross-curricula relevance across several subject areas:

Geography (Years 9 and 10)

Senior Geography (Years 11 and 12)

SOSE/HSIE

Civics and Citizenship

Values and Religious Education

The series specifically relates to the following aspects of Geography, as outlined in the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA) *Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Geography* (2011):

GEOGRAPHY YEARS 7–10

86. In Year 7 the focus is on people. Topics could include communities, diversity, population and population change, migration and mobility, and the spatial pattern of world cultural groups. Other areas of investigation could include the populations of countries such as Indonesia and India; the past and present migration of students' relatives; the mobility patterns of young people; the location of one migrant community in Australia, and how this has changed over time, or world refugee migration.

89. In Year 10 the focus is on the geography of human wellbeing. This integrates population and economic geography around spatial inequalities in human development and welfare at the global, national and local levels of scale. Investigative topics could include global patterns in health or poverty, the geography of crime, tourism, consumption, human rights, studies in development geography, and locational disadvantage.

GEOGRAPHY YEARS 11–12

94. An aim is to further develop students' knowledge of and ability to apply geographical inquiry, through a more advanced study of methods and skills, an exploration of more advanced ways of understanding and explaining, and a deeper engagement in decision making, evaluation and the discussion of ethics and values.

SOURCE: SHAPE OF AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM: GEOGRAPHY 2011

BACKGROUND

According to the UNHCR, at the beginning of 2011 there were 10.4 million refugees and 983,000 asylum seekers of concern around the world.

Matt Campbell, Director of Television and Online Content at SBS, says that *Go Back to Where You Came From* will challenge perceptions of what it means to be a refugee, and bring Australia's hottest debate from the pages of newspapers into living rooms around the country.

Go Back to Where You Came From is a powerful documentary, the scale of which has never been seen or attempted in Australia. It will tackle controversial questions about refugees and asylum seekers – whether there is a right or wrong way of coming to Australia, if any refugees and asylum seekers should be sent back to where they came from, and who deserves protection in Australia.

Go Back to Where You Came From is a multi-platform initiative for SBS: it is featuring extensively across a number of SBS Radio language programs, inviting listeners from all backgrounds to take part in the debate, and online content including previews, catch-ups, school resources relating specifically to the series, as well as an interactive application called 'Asylum: Exit Australia' that puts users in the shoes of asylum seekers.

Go Back to Where You Came From is a Cordell Jigsaw production for SBS.

SYNOPSIS

Go Back to Where You Came From follows six ordinary Australians – Raye, Darren, Gleny, Adam, Roderick and Raquel – who come to the table with different perspectives:

People who come here without any documentation by boat should be immediately expatriated. **Darren, 42, Adelaide**

We're very well off in Australia. I think that we have the capacity to take perhaps more refugees. Definitely the number that we're taking at the moment is not outrageous. We could take more. **Gleny, 39, Newcastle**

They need to go straight back. We've had floods, cyclones, fires, and we're spending millions of dollars on housing these criminals. **Adam, 26, Sydney**

I like to think of myself as right wing, centre right. It angers me when minorities do get to control the direction of the majority. **Roderick, 29, Brisbane**

Australia should be Australian, just like Africa is African and Asia is Asia and America is America or whatever. Australia should be Australia and it shouldn't be so multicultural. **Raquel, 21, Sydney**

The participants agree to challenge their preconceived notions about refugees and asylum seekers by embarking on a confronting 25-day journey. Tracing in reverse the journeys that refugees have taken to reach Australia, they will travel to some of the most dangerous and desperate corners of the world.

Their journey begins in Sydney, where the participants are deprived of their wallets, phones and passports, and have no idea about what is in store for them during the weeks ahead.

Along the way they learn about the reality of life for refugees who now call Australia home, travel to Darwin and board a refugee boat and are rescued mid-ocean, experience immigration raids in Malaysia, witness sheer desperation in Kenyan refugee camps and visit slums in Jordan, before ultimately making it to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq, protected by UN Peacekeepers and the US military.

JOURNEY GUIDE

DR DAVID CORLETT

Dr David Corlett has worked with refugees and asylum seekers for about two decades as a case worker, researcher and advisor. He currently works as a researcher with the International Detention Coalition. He has been an advisor on projects regarding asylum seekers for the Asylum Seeker Project of Hotham Mission and long-term immigration detention for the Victorian Foundation for the Survivors of Torture. In 2003, he completed a doctoral thesis on Australia's response to asylum seekers. He has authored two books, *Following Them Home: The Fate of the Returned Asylum Seekers*, which was highly commended by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, and *Stormy Weather: The Challenge of Climate Change and Displacement*. His writing has also appeared in the *University of New South Wales Law Journal*, *The Monthly*, *The Age* and the *Canberra Times*.



document est valable pour tous pays sauf mention spéciale (sous réserve de la délivrance d'un visa)

THE PARTICIPANTS

RAYE COLBEY

Raye Colbey, 63, lives opposite the Inverbrackie detention centre in the Adelaide Hills with her husband Peter and a couple of horses. She is angry about the money spent on the residents: 'They get given everything. All they do is complain. We're rolling out the red carpet with a glass of champagne at the end of it.'

She has no sympathy for the asylum seekers who died in December 2010 as a result of their boat hitting Christmas Island. 'It served the bastards right,' she says. Before retiring recently, Raye spent twenty-two years working with intellectually disabled children, whose plight she believes is being neglected while the refugees are cared for. 'People don't understand people with a disability. They fear them. Bringing them into a community and trying to get the community to accept them is rewarding.'

ADAM HARTUP

Adam Hartup, 26, is a Cronulla lifeguard who was on the beach on the day of the 2005 riots. Seeing people standing up for the country made him proud to be Australian, but when random Middle Eastern-looking people were being beaten up, it disturbed him. He has zero tolerance for asylum seekers arriving by boat. 'Instead of harboring them, we should just put them straight on a plane and send them back. Don't worry about giving them a feed or shower.'

He thinks Australia should help its own first. Adam has lived in Cronulla all his life and travelled through Asia and Europe. Last year he worked as a lifeguard in Greece during the Australian winter. Adam's brother is a fireman who fought the Villawood detention centre fire in April 2011.

DARREN HASSAN

Darren Hassan, 42, is a father of two from Adelaide. He is staunchly against people coming to Australia by boat and subsequently 'jumping the queue'. He runs an import/export business with his Taiwanese wife. As an aspiring politician he ran unsuccessfully for the Democrats at the last two federal elections. He has since joined the Liberal Party. Darren served in the Australian army for almost ten years as a radio operator.

Darren's ancestors were in the first group of Muslim families to arrive in Australia in the late 1800s as cameleers, but Darren is a practicing Christian. His nickname at school was 'ref' (as in refugee), which confused him. He feels his family integrated into Australian society but claims that generally multiculturalism is not working. He thinks many migrants and refugees haven't integrated well. Darren doesn't understand why asylum seekers travel through numerous countries before arriving here, and suspects they 'country shop' for economic benefit.

RAQUEL MOORE

Raquel Moore, 21, lives in Sydney with her bikie boyfriend and their twelve show Staffordshire terriers. A self-confessed racist, Raquel is highly critical of refugees, especially Africans. She says she'll never be friends with a refugee. She lives near Blacktown, describing it as a really 'black town'.

She believes Australia should not accept any refugees: 'You don't know what diseases they're carrying,' she says. 'We need Pauline Hanson. She's really strong about asylum seekers not coming to Australia.' Raquel left home at thirteen, moving around between relatives, before moving in with her partner at sixteen. She is currently unemployed.



GLENY RAE

Gleny Rae, 39, grew up near Nyngan in western NSW. She lives in Newcastle where she works as a part-time schoolteacher and singer. She performs solo (as Gleny Rae Virus) and in several bands that play around Australia. She thinks asylum seekers who arrive by boats are the most desperate of all and we should treat them humanely.

She believes there should be a home-stay program to accommodate asylum seekers while their applications are processed. She would be delighted to host one, if not two. Notwithstanding her environmental concerns about overpopulation, Gleny thinks Australia should accept more refugees.

RODERICK SCHNEIDER

Roderick Schneider, 29, is from Brisbane and works as a financial planner. He is a former president of the Queensland Young Liberal National Party and is running for the vice-presidency of the federal Young Liberals. His concern about asylum seekers arriving by boat is that we're not properly dealing with issues that drive them here in the first place.

If they really are that distressed to risk their lives and get on a ridiculously unsafe boat, what's making them endanger their lives to come here? There are UN camps on the way, what is so bad at these camps? Surely if they're set up by the UN, people should be able to stay there and not feel threatened.

He believes some immigrants do not assimilate enough.

Roderick has never been overseas before. His biggest fear about participating in the program is he'll be perceived as a left-leaning bleeding heart. 'I'm a government-hating, freedom-loving, centre-right-winger,' he says. Besides politics, Roderick's passion is cricket.

THE REFUGEES

THE MASUDI FAMILY

42-year-old Bahati Masudi, originally from Burundi, and his 37-year-old wife Maisara, originally from the Congo, came to Australia via Kenya in mid 2009. They have five children, all boys. The eldest is sixteen years old and the youngest are eight-month-old Australian-born twins.

The Masudi family was granted resettlement in Australia after spending nine years in Kakuma Refugee Camp in north-west Kenya. Bahati and Maisara both still have family in the camp. Maisara says bombs hit her village so she fled with her family to Burundi, where she met Bahati. He worked full-time as a hotel manager and in his spare time was involved in politics – this saw him put in jail for months, where he was brutally tortured by police. In Australia, the family was resettled in Wodonga.

The three eldest boys are in school. Chris in particular is doing well. Bahati is about to start studying business management at university, while Maisara is busy with English and aged-care courses.

THE IRAQIS

Salah, Nayef and Thair are all from Iraq, all arrived in Australia within the last two years, and all now live in south-west Sydney. One of the group, who is forty-four years old, is a Sunni Muslim who worked as a translator for the American military as well as running a mechanics shop. He fled with his wife and four kids, who are still in Iraq, while he went onto Malaysia and then Australia by boat, and spent four months at Christmas Island detention centre. His mum and nephew are living in Jordan and he is currently applying for his wife and children to be resettled in Australia.

36-year-old Nayef is also a Sunni, and also came here by boat, spending three months on Christmas Island. He left his wife and two children in Iraq, fleeing after his taxi-driver brother was murdered on his way home from work by Shiite militia.

Salah is a forty-year-old Assyrian Christian who was granted refugee status in Syria before flying to Australia in 2009. He was a hairdresser in Baghdad, and fled after being threatened at gunpoint by militia. Salah has a sister in Syria who he's trying to sponsor to come here. He also has two brothers and two sisters already in Australia, most of whom have been here for many years.

Thair, 24, is Mandaean and came to Australia by boat last year after spending two years in Indonesia. Thair fled Iraq because he thought it was a matter of time before he was killed like others he knew. A couple of months ago he got a full-time job working at a printing factory.



GO BACK

THE JOURNEY

Episode One scene sequences:

Meeting the Participants

Home of the Iraqi refugee boat people in Sydney's west

Masudi family home in Albury Wodonga

Swimming pool recreation with Iraqi refugees

Bahati Masudi at university

Villawood Detention Centre

Maisara Masudi shares her experiences of persecution and fear

Participants arrive in Darwin

Boat journey

Episode Two scene sequences:

Malaysian illegal immigrant settlement raid

Arriving in Kenya

Travelling with UN to Kakuma Camp

Settling into accommodation and getting food

Episode Three scene sequences:

Kakuma Camp

Arriving in Amman, Jordan and meeting Iraqi victims of violence

Meeting Masudi family in Kakuma Camp

Meeting displaced Iraqi grandmother and nephew in Amman, Jordan

Participants review their experiences and attitudes

Farewell to Masudi family and Kakuma Camp

Arriving in Kuwait, travelling to Baghdad

Arriving in Democratic Republic of Congo

Creating a livelihood in a Congolese village

Baghdad's Red Zone

STUDENT ATTITUDE EXERCISE

NOTE: IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THIS EXERCISE IS COMMENCED BEFORE VIEWING.

Start a progress log or journal to document the attitudes of the participants and also your own attitude as you watch this series. This can be in the shape of a table, with a column for each participant and one for yourself, or it could be in the form of prose.

Monitor the attitude of each participant and yourself at the beginning and at the end of each episode by writing a brief commentary of their attitude. As there are three episodes, this means that when you have finished watching the series, there will be six comments for each participant, as well as yourself.

As you move through the series record each comment. Keep the comments short – no more than five words.

After you have finished viewing the series, reflect on the changes or lack of changes in the attitudes of the participants and yourself. What can you conclude from this result?

- Compare your attitude with that of others in your class or family.
- Do you have the same attitude or do you hold different opinions?
- What have you learnt about your own attitude?

To learn more about the Australian general public perceptions and attitude towards immigration, read the SBS-commissioned 2010 IPSOS MACKAY Report ([hotlink tbc](#)), which conducted a nationwide survey to determine public opinion on the issue.



EPISODE ONE

The documentary opens with a montage of news footage and comments from some of our leading politicians, including the Prime Minister. This is an unusual way to open a documentary.

- What information about the refugee issue does this news footage tell you?
- Do you believe news media portrays the issue objectively? Why or why not?
- Why do you think the producers have chosen to open the documentary series in this way?

In Episode One we meet the six participants. We see where they live, we learn their views on illegal refugee asylum seekers and we embark with them on their journey.

- Where is the group when they first meet Dr Dave in the documentary?
- Why do you think the producers selected this location to open the film?
- What does Dr Dave take from the participants and how do they react?

The participants are on their way. The group splits into two – Raquel, Raye and Roderick visit newly settled refugees the Masudi family, who live in Albury Wodonga on the New South Wales and Victorian border.

- What is the background story of the Masudi family?
- How did they arrive in Australia?
- How were they granted permission to live in Australia?

Adam, Darren and Gleny travel to Sydney's western suburbs to the home of a group of Iraqis who arrived in Australia as illegal boat people. The participants go to the Villawood detention centre to visit other refugee detainees.

- Who are boat people and where do they come from?
- Why are the Iraqis in Australia without their families?
- Describe what the participants express when they emerge from the detention centre.

Bahati and Maisara have each experienced severe persecution and terror in their homelands. However, now with their five sons, they are living a secure and content life.

- Describe how they are coping with the memory of their past trauma.
- How have their lives changed now that they live in Australia?
- What is this family doing to improve their ability to contribute to Australian society?

While the Iraqi boat people are participating and actively involved in Australian life, they continue to experience a somewhat dislocated life in Australia. One of the Iraqis is being treated for post-traumatic stress disorder.

- One of the men in the group cannot swim. Suggest the conditions that urged him to board a boat to travel to Australia despite the great risk of drowning on the way.
- Why do the Iraqis continue to visit and support the detainees in the Villawood detention centre?
- List five factors that continue to cause the Iraqi men daily anguish.



The participants reunite and meet in Darwin. It is here that Dr Dave announces they will be setting off on the next leg of their journey on a boat that is typical of a vessel refugee boat people would travel on.

- Describe the conditions of the boat.
- How many refugee boat people usually travel on a similar boat and what do each pay the people smugglers for a space onboard?
- Explain why the participants' tempers fray on the boat.

COUNTRY PROFILE: AUSTRALIA

As a signatory to the 1951 UN Convention on Refugees (and its 1967 Protocol), Australia is obliged under international law to offer support and ensure that a person found to be a refugee is not sent back unwillingly to the country of origin. The terms 'refugees' and 'asylum seekers' are often used interchangeably, but they have quite distinct meanings. Refugees are people who have been forced to leave their countries because they have been persecuted.

The 1951 UN Convention defines a refugee as:

Any person who owing to a well founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his/her nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of that country.

An asylum seeker is a person who has fled their own country and applies to the government of another country for protection as a refugee. The term asylum seeker refers to all people who apply for refugee protection, whether or not they are officially determined to be refugees.

The two most common ways for an asylum seeker to seek refugee status in Australia is to arrive by boat or by plane, and on arrival announce their claim as a refugee. The description 'arriving in Australia with refugee status already granted' tends to refer to people who have been pre-determined as a refugee by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in either a refugee camp or by registering with the UNHCR in a neighbouring country to their country of origin.

Refugee camps and countries where a person can register with UNHCR does not guarantee safety and only offers in-transit options. According to the UNHCR, the body that is responsible for protecting refugees and overseeing adherence to the Convention, by the end of 2009 there were 10.4 million refugees worldwide. Of these, a total of 112,400 were granted resettlement in 2009: 79,000 were resettled in the US, 12,500 in Canada, 11,000 in Australia, 2100 in Germany, 1900 in Sweden and 1400 in Norway.

1 per cent of the world's refugees directly benefited from resettlement. The main beneficiaries of the UNHCR resettlement program were refugees from Myanmar (24,800), Iraq (23,000), Bhutan (17,500), Somalia (5500), Eritrea (2500) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (2500).



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EPISODE TWO

Episode Two opens with the participants now in Malaysia. It is night. They are travelling through an outer urban area of a city in a convoy of twenty-five to thirty vehicles toward a settlement where illegal refugees are living.

- How does each of the Australian participants feel about the raid at the onset?
- Why is the raid happening at night?
- Describe how the raid occurs?

The people living in these settlements are generally from minority groups from neighbouring countries - such as the Chin people from Myanmar. Suffering persecution and violence in their homeland, these displaced people have escaped for their own safety.

- Name the push and pull factors that have led these people to this settlement?
- Why have these people settled in this squalid slum?
- What kind of 'better' life are these people hoping to establish?

These settlements are commonly located on the outskirts of cities and large urban centres in regions such as the Klang Valley. As there are no official or United Nations camps (UNHCR) in Malaysia these settlements quickly descend into slum conditions.

- What are the houses in the settlement constructed with?
- Describe the sanitation conditions in the slum.
- What is the availability of clean water in the settlement?

Having no legal status, the men and woman in the settlement are unable to work. Many have children to support. Neither the United Nations nor the Malaysian government provides assistance to these desperate people. Options for accessing food are limited.

- In order to survive, what options of obtaining food are available to the people in these slums?
- What medical facilities would be available in the slum?
- Suggest why malnourishment and disease is common in these illegal refugee squatter settlements.

The police arrest and capture the people in the settlement. Some are tied up. Women and children are forced away from their menfolk. All are transported away from the settlement. At the end of the raid, the event has impacted on all the Australian participants. Yet, they have varying attitudes to the experience.

- Describe how Raquel feels about the raid.
- Why does Adam appear so shocked?
- How and why are Raye's feelings changing?

Raquel, Raye and Roderick arrive in Kenya, East Africa. They are met and escorted by United Nations representatives. Travelling to Kakuma Camp safety is a concern and they have armed security officers to protect them. However, the Australians are very scared.

- What is making the Australians for anxious?
- What information does Raquel give the official as she is 'checking in'?
- Who are the people in the mini-bus with the Australians? Why are they there?



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Arriving at Kakuma Camp the Australians are confronted with some harsh realities of life. Living conditions are extremely difficult. Food, water, sanitation and communication are very different from what the Australians are accustomed to at home.

- How many nationalities are residing in Kakuma camp? Name 5 countries.
- Describe the housing sleeping conditions allocated to the Australians.
- What foods are available in the store in Kakuma Camp?

COUNTRY PROFILE: MALAYSIA

Australian media and politicians turn public attention towards Indonesia when we refer to 'boat people' and people smugglers. However, there are less than 3000 asylum seekers and refugees in Indonesia. Malaysia is 'home' to between 90,000 and 170,000 refugees and asylum seekers, as Malaysia is often the first country asylum seekers and refugees flee to. It is in Malaysia where people may first meet with a people smuggler.

While Malaysia does have a UNCHR presence, it is not a signatory to the UN Convention for Refugees. It does not officially recognise refugee status, and it is not a signatory to the 1951 Convention or the 1967 Protocol, which places itself at odds with its international obligations and creates serious risks to the human rights of refugees and asylum seekers. In Malaysia, asylum seekers and refugees predominantly come from Myanmar (Burma), Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia. Refugees and asylum seekers are still considered 'illegal migrants' in Malaysia. They have no formal legal status or right to work. Despite recent government promises, they face the daily prospect of being arrested, detained in squalid conditions, and tortured and otherwise ill treated, including being subject to caning. They face the constant fear of being forced to return to a country where they may be stripped of their rights or even killed.

Malaysia is both a destination and transit country for a significant number of refugees and asylum seekers. Despite not being a signatory to the 1951 Convention, the UNHCR is present in Malaysia and has facilitated resettlement for refugees in USA, Australia, Canada, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. UNHCR is the main actor of protection and assistance for asylum seekers and refugees in Malaysia: 92 per cent, or some 85,300, are from Myanmar, comprising some 36,600 Chins, 20,100 Rohingyas, 9000 Myanmar Muslims, 3900 Mon, 3500 Kachins and other ethnicities from Myanmar. There are some 7400 refugees and asylum seekers from other countries, including 4000 Sri Lankans, 1050 Somalis, 710 Iraqis and 510 Afghans.

COUNTRY PROFILES: KENYA

Kakuma Refugee Camp is in far north-west Kenya and has a population of over 84,000 refugees. Kakuma is the Swahili word for 'nowhere', reflecting the seclusion of the area. Refugees living in Kakuma have fled thirteen countries across Africa, predominantly from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia. Kakuma refugee camp was created in 1992 as a result of Sudan's civil war. However, since then instability in surrounding countries has seen people flee their homes, forced to seek refuge in Kakuma.

The camp is managed by the Kenyan government and the Kenyan Department of Refugee Affairs, in conjunction with the UNHCR. Kakuma facilitates over 84,000 refugees due to UN divisions like the World Food Program and the UNHCR's collaboration with non-government organisations like the International Rescue Committee, Red Cross, Lutheran World Federation, Jesuit Refugee Service, National Council of Churches Kenya, Don Bosco and Film Aid International.

Food rations and water supply is tight and the desert environment makes growing crops for food near impossible. With an average temperature of forty degrees Celsius, regular dust storms and poisonous spiders, snakes and scorpions, Kakuma's environment is tough. Malnutrition, communicable disease outbreaks and malaria are all ongoing problems.



EPISODE THREE

Whilst Kakuma camp provides relative security compared to the persecution many experienced in their homeland, it has its own daily stresses.

- Who lives in Kakuma Camp and how is it governed?
- What are the main religions and population of Kakuma Camp?
- Describe how the fortnightly food is distributed and what do they receive?

In Amman, capital city of Jordan, Doctors Without Borders operates for free on Iraqi bomb victims who cannot get medical help back home in Iraq. The doctors also ease the anguish the victims are suffering.

- Describe the charity work of Doctors Without Borders.
- What activities help the moral of refugee Iraqi bomb victims?
- Explain how this support helps restore the bomb victim's lives.

In Kakuma Camp Raquel, Raye and Roderick find Bahati and Maisara Masudi's extended family. Bahati's brother Deo and his family live on a small plot in mud houses. Maisara's sister Eminata also lives in the household.

- Who lives in Deo's family's household?
- What education do Deo's children receive and what are their prospects?
- How does the news and video from the Masudi's in Australia impact on Deo, Eminata and the extended family? Why is the news bittersweet?

Many of the displaced Iraqi people who have fled persecution and horror have settled in Jordan. The 120,000 Iraqis who live in Amman exist in urban squalor without adequate food, water and services.

- Define the term urban squalor.
- What factors have contributed to the demise of the Iraqi's living conditions?
- With displaced families typically being separated, explain the family stresses in caring for elderly family members.

Although the Jordanian government welcomes them, Iraqis have no legal status. This means they cannot legally work or get access to any government services or get access to proper medical treatment.

- How do Iraqi families support themselves if they cannot work in Jordan?
- Why can't Iraqis in Amman return home to Iraq?
- How do refugee conditions in Amman (and Malaysia) contribute to the hope of travelling by boat to Australia?

When the time comes to leave Kakuma and travel to the Democratic Republic of Congo it is difficult for the Australian participants. It has been a journey of mixed emotions.

- Why is the farewell from Kakuma such an emotional time for all?
- Re-write what Raye says she has learnt in Kakuma?
- How has Raquel's attitude towards African people changed after her Kakuma experience?



GO BACK
TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM

Sporadic violence continues to render Baghdad an unsafe place to live. Under the protection of the American Army, Australians Adam, Darren and Gleny move from the Green Zone into the Red Zone.

- Explain the difference between the Green Zone and the Red Zone.
- Although the war is officially over, why is Baghdad still dangerous?
- How does the Baghdad experience help the Australians understand the Iraqi people they met in Sydney?

Democratic Republic of Congo is a war-torn country where more than four million people have died in recent years. Persecution, anarchy and crime are rife.

- What impact has political unrest and war had on civilians in the Congo?
- Where do the internally displaced people live in the Congo?
- What other issues is Rod referring to when he cannot join in the dancing and happiness?

COUNTRY PROFILES: JORDAN

Jordan is one of the three main countries that Iraqis have fled to after escaping their war-torn homeland. It is home to the second-highest population of Iraqi refugees, after Syria. The Jordanian government estimates that as of January 2010, there are between 450,000 and 500,000 Iraqis living in Jordan. Around 31,000 Iraqis have registered with UNHCR. According to the UNHCR, as of December 2009 there are around 1.8 million Iraqi refugees in the world, most of them living in Iraq's neighbouring

countries of Jordan, Syria and Iran. As of the start of this year, Syria is home to 1 million Iraqi refugees, while Iran's population of Iraqi refugees is around 48,000.

The majority of Iraqis living in Jordan are Sunni Muslim. Jordan is not a signatory to the UN's 1951 Refugee Convention, but UNHCR says: 'the Government of Jordan recognises the Iraqis on its territory as guests. It continues to welcome them and allows them to live in the country in safety. However, the Iraqis do not have a clear legal status nor the right to work.' Most Iraqis in Jordan live in urban areas, mostly in slum-like conditions, which is the case across the Middle East. The UNHCR says in the Middle East and South West Asia, almost 80 per cent of refugees live in urban areas.

In Africa around 15 per cent of refugees live in urban areas, while almost 60 per cent live in camps. Iraqi refugees in Jordan have no right to access social security services. According to UNHCR staff in Jordan, if Iraqis can get access to the Jordanian public health system, they may pay up to ten times the amount that Jordanians pay for treatment.

In 2007 the Jordanian government granted access to public schools for all Iraqi children. Of the 1.8 million Iraqi refugees mostly living in the Middle East, in 2011 the UNHCR aims to resettle 26,830 Iraqis from Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. The UNHCR's country profile on Jordan says: 'Due to the lack of local integration possibilities in Jordan, resettlement remains the only durable solution for the majority of the Iraqi refugees. Large-scale returns are not anticipated due to the security situation in Iraq.' The UNHCR says over 52 per cent of refugees in the Middle East and South West Asia are living in protracted situations, which means they have been there for more than five years.



COUNTRY PROFILES: IRAQ

Since the second Gulf War began in 2003, the UN estimates over 2 million Iraqis have fled the country. Last financial year Australia granted 1688 refugee visas to Iraqis. The US officially ended its seven-year combat operations in August 2010, reducing the number of troops to about 49,700.

The US and Iraq have agreed that all US military personnel will leave the country by the end of this year. Iraq is still a very dangerous place. According to the Iraq Body Count website, an average of over 200 people are killed in the country every month. UNHCR estimates there are over 1.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Iraq, as of January last year. UNHCR says:

the Iraqi refugees who choose to return home are faced with many challenges, including lack of security, of livelihood prospects and of social services.

Many IDPs live in deplorable conditions, deprived of essential assistance, and their need for humanitarian support increases the longer their displacement continues. There are also occasional reports of new displacements, particularly among the minority communities.

COUNTRY PROFILES: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

After being given the choice, Raye and Roderick decide to visit DRC but Raquel declines. The visit is assisted by MONUSCO (UN peacekeepers in Congo) and OCHA (UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs). Raye and Roderick visit one of the many IDP refugee camps in the DRC called Mugunga III, 35 kilometres outside the city of Goma in Eastern Congo. An IDP camp consists of people forced to leave their own homes and become displaced within their own country.

The DRC is the third largest country in Africa, the size of Western Europe, and has endured turmoil since gaining independence from Belgium in 1960. The DC is rated amongst the poorest countries of the world, but its people should be rich, as it has natural resources and raw minerals with an estimated worth of over US\$24 trillion. The \$870m diamond industry provides work for around 1 million people, but many diggers earn less than one dollar a day in dangerous conditions. Refugees flee the DRC after being subjected to (or because they are in fear of) murder, rape or forced labour.

The issues relating to the DRC's instability are highly complex, with numerous political issues and violent rebel groups operating within the DRC. This makes the job of stabilising the region very challenging for UN peacekeepers and the DRC government. Currently, the most troubled area of the DRC is Eastern Congo; in North and South Kivu over 2 million people are internally displaced. The ongoing violence left nearly 2 million people displaced and a further 145,000 as refugees in neighbouring countries. Despite a peace accord signed in January 2008, armed conflict persists and civilians have borne the brunt of the violence. The prevalence of rape, torture and murder is described as the worst in the world.

Congolese authorities, in conjunction with UN peacekeepers, are present to assist in protecting civilians under the imminent threat of physical violence and to assist displaced civilians who want to return home. Despite this, attacks on villages continue, and tens of thousands of women and children have been raped.

In 2008 the UN officially declared the rape of women and children as a 'weapon of war' in the DRC. The level of sexual violence continues at an alarming rate: over 15,000 cases of sexual violence were reported in 2009, and in 2010 there were no signs that the trend was decreasing, as the first six months of the year saw 7685 cases reported. More than half of the victims were under eighteen years of age.



CONCLUSION

In one of the most ambitious documentary series ever made, *Go Back to Where You Came From* brings the hottest debate in Australia from the front page of the newspaper into living rooms around the country. Six Australians, who agree to challenge their preconceived notions about refugees and asylum seekers, go on a confronting 25-day journey tracing in reverse the journeys that real refugees have taken to reach Australia.

SBS' intent with *Go Back to Where You Came From* is to engage all Australians in the national discourse on the complexity of managing those who seek asylum on our shores.

PRODUCTION

Documentary produced by Cordell Jigsaw for SBS

Online resources produced by SBS and Quadrant Productions

Schools pack produced by SBS, Refugee Council of Australia and Amnesty International



document est valable pour tous pays sauf mention spéciale (sous réserve de la délivrance d'un visa)

REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

Go Back to Where You Came From has several further learning opportunities on SBS Online.

Schools <<http://www.sbs.com.au/shows/goback/listings/page/i/2/h/Schools/>>

This includes:

- **Six classroom clips** extracted from the series – three pertaining to the African journey and three pertaining to the Middle Eastern journey. The clips range in duration from four to eight minutes. (link tbc)
- **Online teacher notes and student activities** (link tbc)
- **Geography curriculum pointers** (link tbc)
- **Schools pack for lower and middle secondary school** <http://media.sbs.com.au/home/upload_media/site_20_rand_1886268259_refugeeweekteacherspack_v1.0.pdf>
- **Take the quiz** <<http://www.sbs.com.au/shows/goback/tab-listings/curr-tab/i/1/tab/The%20Show>>
An opportunity to test your Australian immigration knowledge, opinion and attitude with a five-question quiz.
- **Asylum: Exit Australia** <<http://www.sbs.com.au/shows/goback/about/page/i/1/h/Asylum-Exit-Australia/>>
An immersive, interactive simulation based on the experiences of real asylum seekers, drawing on statistics and facts about the difficult journeys undertaken by refugees. The challenge is to get out of an Australia that has suddenly become hostile, and in which the lives of you and your family are threatened. Success in migrating to another, safer country depends on difficult choices in a world of forged documents, rickety boats, aggressive authorities and overcrowded camps.
- **Fact sheets** <<http://www.sbs.com.au/shows/goback/tab-listings/curr-tab/i/1/tab/Factsheets#top>>
The SBS Online **fact sheets** address the following questions:

Are asylum seekers who arrive by boat illegal immigrants?

How safe are refugee camps?

Does Australia take its 'fair share' of refugees?

Are refugees who arrive by boat queue jumpers?

What social security benefits do refugees receive?

- **Your Say** <<http://www.sbs.com.au/shows/goback/listings/page/i/3/h/Your-Say/>>

Join in the conversation on SBS Online. Your Say is currently debating the following topics:

Malaysian Solution

Small numbers, big fuss

Conditions in refugee camps

Moral Obligations

What can we do?

- **Facebook** – *Go Back to Where You Came From*

- **The IPSOS MACKAY Report 2011** – a national attitudinal study that explores and contracts contemporary attitudes to immigration and perceptions of Australia's immigration history. (link tbc)

Amnesty International <<http://www.amnesty.org.au>>

Refugee Council of Australia
<<http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au>>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<<http://www.unhcr.org/4c11f0be9.html>>

Human Rights Watch <<http://www.hrw.org>>

Australian Government: Department of Immigration and Citizenship <<http://www.immi.gov.au>>

To obtain your educational DVD version of this series, cleared for non-theatrical use, please call or email VEA's friendly customer service team. VEA is SBS' educational distribution partner.

Phone: 1800 034 282

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GO BACK



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