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source: http://chrocodiles.blogspot.com/2010/11/wonderful-indonesian-culture-of-shadow.html

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#### **PROLOGUE:**

Why I make a Submission?

People Smugglers' modus operandi My submission will address the Inquiry's **Terms of Reference**. It is sourced from *published research* related to the subject-matter of the Inquiry and, includes personal observation of information *made public in open court* in 2011, during the district court trials of Indonesian crew charged with people-smuggling offences.

This Inquiry - into the treatment of individuals suspected of people-smuggling offences who say they are children - needs however to appreciate the way in which the Indonesian crew are organised onto the 'perahu layar motor' (PLM Type III) boats destined for Australia's northern waters. It is important to understand that these voyages comprise two legs – the longer 1<sup>st</sup> leg eastwards across the Indonesian archipelago and the short 2<sup>nd</sup> leg beginning off Pulau Roti directly due south 60 nautical miles (110 km) overnight to Ashmore reef. See Map 1. The number of Indonesian crew that embark is almost invariably less than the number of crew upon intercept at Ashmore reef.

Map 1: Pulau Roti in relation to Ashmore Reef



Source: ERIN, Dept of Environ & Heritage, Cth Aust. 2005

The perahu that they crew are known as **Suspected Irregular Entry Vessel** (SIEV). Each SIEV is designated with a consecutive number. All the persons on a SIEV, including the crew are denoted, by the authorities, as **Potential Irregular Immigrants** (PII). Each PII is given a number on a 'nominal roll' taken after intercept.

Whole-of-Government response Prosecutions entail a charge that the crew knowingly facilitated the bringing of the asylum-seekers to Australia. People smuggling trials are indictable offences before a jury. The AFP charge the Indonesian crew of a SIEV alleged to have committed a people-smuggling offence under the Migration Act. The AFP refers the matter to the CDPP. Before that, other government agencies such as the RAN, ACS/BPC and DIAC make decisions concerning the crew. All agencies involved are said to represent the whole-of-government approach to people smuggling. That approach could also be said to be at the heart of the problem now facing this Inquiry.<sup>1</sup>

One concern

A concern is that this Inquiry might make recommendations that play into the hands of those who are the organisers of people smuggling. Should this Inquiry create a situation for Australian agencies that allows 'borderline' adult crew to escape charge due to 'technically unacceptable' age assessment errors it may perversely encourage organisers to staff future SIEVs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg of the voyage with a majority of such crew (on 'training runs'). The crew so deported may simply become the next kaptan of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Warton (2002) at pg.17; Woolner (2011) at p.72, "Whole of Government": Structural Roots of Weakness

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Garamendi et al (2005) at p.10, contrasts the "ethically unacceptable" from "technically unacceptable" errors.

a SIEV who gets off at Roti and who-in-turn send fresh juveniles into the arms of the RAN / BPC.

#### **Causality**

One reaps what one sows. A prior Indonesian government encouraged commercial foreign-owned trawlers to **over-fish East of Longitude 130 E** in Maluku province of the Banda & Arafura seas from 1998 - 2001. Australia's **Operation Clearwater** (2005) and **Operation Breakwater** (2006) cumulatively destroyed hundreds of perahu along with the fish-catch, fuel, nets and lines – the means of livelihood for Indonesian small boat fishermen 'illegally' fishing in/outside the 'MOU Box' area. Indonesia's 'joki' system means the kaptan (and crew) remained indebted to the 'boss' for the forfeited boats and <u>Fisheries Management Act</u> fines. For 74 days after 21 August 2009, Australia's **Montara rig** spilt a large volume of crude oil into the Timor Sea. Indonesian fishing villages were allegedly affected by the subsequent 'clean up' using the chemical **COREXIT EC9500 / EC9527**. This 'dispersant' submerges crude-oil onto reefs; such that reef-fishing and alternative income from seaweed-harvesting projects (such as those funded by **AusAID** in 2004) was much damaged in 2010.

#### 'Juvenile' crew

**'Juvenile' Indonesian crew** is not a new issue.<sup>3</sup> The perahu '*Lima Tujuh*' arrived at Ashmore on 30 August 1999 with 29 PII including two Indonesian juveniles. In their trial of *Curtis v Sidik & Najar*,\* the trial judge rejected [at para.24] the argument that because those who organise people smuggling employ juveniles as crew it is proper to impose the same punishment on juveniles as the organisers. The organisers are the ones who should be punished more severely. [\* Note, *trial* references are to *reported* cases].

R v Hatim examined the wrist X-ray age assessment issue in 2000 in a matter involving the perahu 'Sinar Mutiara', which arrived off Ashmore on 16 December 1999 with 133 PII including six crew. Another perahu, the 'Dhita Utama' arrived at Ashmore on 3 June 2001 with 59 PII, including four Indonesian crew carrying false identification papers all showing date of birth (d.o.b.) under 18 years old. In their trial of R v Sarip Abakar & Ors, each had their left wrist x-rayed to establish and admit into evidence that they were adults. On 15 April 2009, 'SIEV 36' a Type IV perahu arrived at Ashmore with 49 PII, including two crew who "falsely told officers" they were 13 years and 17 years old respectively. In their trial of R v Tahir & Beny, the trial judge ruled [at para.13-14] that bilateral wrist X-rays reveal both the accused had the skeletal ages of males of at least 19 years old and though both do not know how old they are, they accept they are over 18 years old.

#### Advocacy

This Inquiry is 10 years in the making. The Inquiry could widen its Terms of Reference to examine the 'elephant in the room', that is, the 5 years jail (with 3 years non-parole) mandatory sentencing of Indonesian crew convicted of people-smuggling offences. Kaptans who jump-off at Roti know about it. Juveniles are left to hold the tangkai kemudi ('tiller') for that final leg to Ashmore. Restore judicial discretion in sentencing; convicted crew will go home after the remand period and; the juveniles may be less likely involved in the first place. Redirect some of the \$'00s million spent remunerating the 'border protection industry' to improving the lot in life of these impoverished small-boat fishermen & their families in Nusa Tenggara Timur province. Work closer with Indonesia to manage fisheries in these northern waters. Replace the 28 Commonwealth government agencies that 'manage' our maritime domain with a singularly responsible 'Coast Guard'. See Woolner (2011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Warton (2002) at pg.16

#### CATCHWORDS for this submission

Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) province – Livelihood of Indonesian small boat fishermen – MOU Box – Operation Clearwater – Operation Breakwater – Montara blowout – COREXIT 9500 – AusAID – Seaweed harvesting – People smuggling – INP SATGASDA – the Bali Process – RMIM – Kupang – Roti island – Ashmore reef – GAMSA – Coast Guard.

SIEV – PII – Nominal Roll – DIAC Record of Interview – Use of documents in evidence – cross-examination on documents – heresay – burden of proof.

Commonwealth criminal trial – Non-English speaking Accused – declined AFP Record of Interview – Regional *daerah* (dialect/creole) – Bahasa Kupang Malay – Supply & Quality of Interpreters – NAATI Accreditation – *Kafkaesque* spectre – mandatory sentencing – no bill / *nolle prosequi* 

Chronological age unknown – Guidelines for Forensic Age Estimation of live young adults involved in criminal proceedings – Study Group of Forensic Age Diagnostics (AGFAD) – German Association of Forensic Medicine – Bone age estimate – wrist X-ray – 'Greulich & Plye atlas' – Other atlases – 'Tanner-Whitehouse score' – other scoring methods: TW2 (RUS) / TW3 / FELS / Risser – statistical Mean Average Difference (mad) / Standard error of measurements ( $s_{meas}$ ) – Automation – Ethnic differences – Radiation dose — non-radiological methods (magnetic resonance imaging, MRI & ultrasound)

Dental examination – orthopantomogram (OPG X-ray) – Third molar – 'Demirjian method' Stage H – Nutritional/socio-economic differences

Combination of physiological methods – 'technically unacceptable' errors – 'ethically unacceptable' errors.

Age determination – Interviewing techniques – Social workers – multidiscipline 'holistic assessment' of UASC – Credibility evaluation and asylum determination in the UK system – England & Wales Court of Appeal (Civil) / High Court (Admin) – Age assessment vis-à-vis burden of proof / balance of probabilities

Application for bridging visa – Migrant Review Tribunal – Federal Magistrates Court of Australia – Wrist X-ray – Heresay evidence – No documentary evidence of age

#### **BACKGROUND:**

To appreciate the numbers of asserted juvenile crew under consideration by the Inquiry, it is useful to summarise the *overall* numbers involved: that is, the number of SIEVs, interviews, charges, trials, and convictions.

Table 1: People-Smuggling Tally ^

### Tally of people smuggling

|                                       | 2009 | 2010 | 2011<br>YTD* | Total |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|--------------|-------|
| SIEV arrivals                         | 61   | 134  | 71           | 266   |
| Passengers on SIEVs                   | 2849 | 6879 | 4672         | 14400 |
| Passengers giving statements to AFP   | 549  | 1026 | 128          | 1703  |
| %Passengers giving statements         | 19%  | 15%  | 3%           | 12%   |
| Crew detained for interview           | 146  | 345  | 165          | 656   |
| Crew deported (under 18 yrs)          | -    | -    | -            | 76    |
| Crew charged & remanded (Total)       | 80   | 202  | 201          | 483   |
| Crew remanded (claim to be < 18 yrs?) | -    | -    | -            | 32    |
| Crew prosecuted                       | 30   | 102  | 304          | 436   |
| Crew convicted ^                      | 27   | 62   | 81           | 170   |

<sup>\*</sup> YTD ('year to date') may differ between the rows in the 2011 column

Table 1 contains an estimate of people-smuggling matters processed by the AFP/CDPP/courts since 2009. As there is no single source available to me, I have brought together these figures from various *public* sources. Without dwelling on the minutiae, the overall picture appears as one of the AFP & CDPP being confronted in 2009, and stretched in 2010 & 2011.

Faced with a large number of crew charged, it appears the authorities have taken too long to bring prosecutions to trial. The conviction rate is below the CDPP's own key performance indicator for its *Program 1.1 Objective*. This result is at a time that the media reports the CDPP is bringing forward (from its budget) an extra \$900,000 per month to prosecute people-smuggling offences. See **Media (19 October 2011)**.

#### Feu de joie

The 'bottom line' is a result of a number of *apparent* factors: swelling in the number of accused; the transfer of many matters (beginning in Q3 2010) from Perth to the eastern States; the delays getting listed in the eastern State's district courts; the extent of legal argument by the defence barristers in these courts; a shortage of 'Professional' interpreters; the 'hung juries' with no verdicts; and the adaptability of the people-smuggling organisers to harness the youngest crew from further flung villages of **NTT province, centred on Kupang** (West Timor), as 'mules' smuggling people.

### Indonesian response

On the latter point, **IOM** reported it did inform village fishermen in the Kupang area during April – August 2010 to not be recruited by people smugglers. See **IOM Indonesia** (2010). That information campaign was carried on flyers with 'value-based' messages, such as "Aku Tau Penyelundupan Imigran Ilegal itu Salah" (I know people smuggling is wrong). The campaign was also trialled in Tanjung Balai Asahan (North Sumatra), Sukabumi (West Java) and Manggarai Barat (Flores). Funded with \$4 million by ACS/BPC as part of 'the Bali Process' (www.baliprocess.net) and known by the acronym '**RMIM**' (Reinforcing Management of Irregular Migration), the campaign had initial successes, but is not known to have been sustained in 2011. It is noted that units of the Indonesian Police's anti-people smuggling task force (i.e. 'SATGASDA' - satuan tugas - literally 'one task') are reportedly situated in places, such as Kupang,

<sup>^</sup> sources: APH (2/2011) and APH (12/2011)

where people smugglers recruit SIEV crew. See **INP** (2010). RMIM and SATGASDA however are no panacea to stop the recruitment of juveniles.

### Example of a RMIM flyer

(Reinforcing Management of Irregular Migration

aka 'Dark Migration Management Strengthening Program')

#### **Translation:**

"Fishing is a respectable job ...I will not damage our families reputations by becoming a people smuggler"

#### Source:

Roberts, P. & Bonneau, L (2009); Prayitno (2011); Jackman (2011)



**In summary**, for the purposes of this Inquiry, it should be noted that the number of crew detained/charged & remanded who still claim to have been under 18 years of age at the time of intercept appears to be small (32), though not insignificant, relative to large number of crew initially detained for interview (656).

#### **BACKGROUND:**

#### R, the Queen (the Prosecution), comprising:

#### Participants in people smuggling matters

- Crown Prosecutors and CDPP solicitors
- Crown Witnesses (asylum-seekers/SIEV passengers, Commonwealth officers of the AFP / RAN / ACS / BPC / DIAC agencies)
- CDPP-supplied court interpreters (Bahasa Indonesian, Arabic/Persian/Hazaragi/Dari/Farsi languages)

#### 'Indonesian crew' (the Defence), comprising:

- barristers/supporting solicitors/Legal Aid solicitors (advocates),
- accused crew who chose to give evidence from the witness box
- Legal Aid-supplied conference interpreters (Bahasa Indonesian)

#### **BACKGROUND:**

# Relevant legislation & rules

Sections 5, 36, 42, 232A (repealed), 233C, 245F Migration Act;

Sections 3ZQA-3ZQK, 23A, 23B, 23F, 23G, 23H, 23N, 23P Crimes Act (Cth);

Sections 26, 33, 36, 38, 43 – 45, 48, 55 – 58, 68(3), 69, 73, 89, 90, 91, 100, 101A, 110, 115, 128, 135 - 139, 142, 165, 171, 173, 174, 176, 178, 183, 184, 189, 190, 191 Evidence Act;

Advocacy Rules 68, 72, 82 – 94 (Prosecutor's duties), NSW Barristers' Rules

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

# Location, Fisheries, & Montara

Ashmore reef

#### Ashmore Reef and the 'MOU Box'

Even the most cursory look at **Map 2** will see that Ashmore reef - composed of West island, Middle and East islets - is closer (just 60 nautical miles or 110 kilometres) to the Indonesian island of Roti than it is to Australia's coastline.

Map 2: Ashmore, Indonesia and the Australian mainland



**MOU** 

Indonesia's small-boat fishermen have a history of fishing from 'lambo perahu' (sail boats, Types I & II) in these waters between Ashmore and Australia's coastline. See **Diagram 1**. In 1974, a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** signed between Australia and Indonesia recognised the rights of the Indonesians using 'traditional' methods to fish in defined waters known as the 'MOU Box': an area which is south of Australia's **Fisheries Surveillance & Enforcement Line**. See **Map 3**.

It created headaches for enforcement both in/outside the MOU Box, as by the terms of the agreement, the fisherman are **prohibited** from the **use of marine GPS** (which would give their location relative to the area's defined co-ordinates of Longitude 121 degrees 30 minutes to 123 degrees 48 minutes East and Latitude 12 degrees 11 minutes

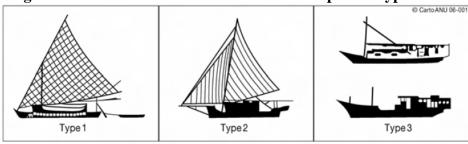
Submission by Greg HOGAN

Source: Stacey (2007)

50 seconds to 14 degrees 25 minutes South). They also are denied engines (which would give them power to stop drifting outside the MOU Box, to haul in nets, or pump out bilges). In rough weather, during the monsoon season of November - March, the lack of engines puts lives at risk. See Fox et al (2006), Fox & Sen (2002).

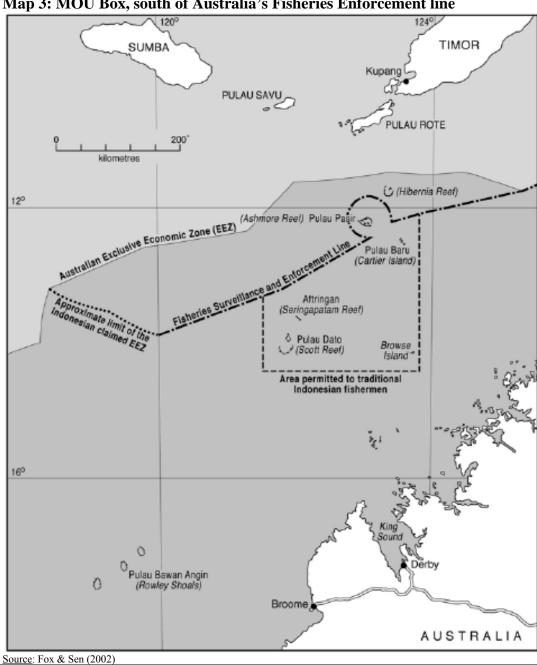
Diagram 1: AFMA Classification of Indonesian perahu types

#### Types of boats



Source: Stacey (2007)

Map 3: MOU Box, south of Australia's Fisheries Enforcement line



**Indonesians** know the reefs inside the Box by various names

The **agreement, revised in 1989**, banned all fishing at Ashmore. Fishermen also lost access to southern shark-fishing grounds along the shallow waters of the **Sahul Shelf** (in the Timor Sea) that lie outside the Box. Fishermen went into deeper waters, using long-lines to a depth of 60 metres, inside the Box and to its north. The adoption of **long-line gear** (in place of traditional hand-lines and '*shark-rattles*') was facilitated by the availability of credit, but it created **financial strain** on the fishermen, contributing to the migration of Bajau people from Tekang Besi (Wakatobi) islands, along with other fishermen from Alor & Pantar islands, to Pepela (Roti) throughout the 1990s.

#### **Enforcement of Australia's Fisheries**

Australian authorities have pursued Indonesian fishermen south of the Fisheries Enforcement Line, destroying almost 470 *perahu / bodi* (i.e. sleek shark-fishing boats) in 2004 - 2007. See **Table 2.** 

Apprehensions were much lower is 2008 (91) and 2009 (26). The forfeiture regime under the <u>Fisheries Management Act</u> operates *at the time the vessel is used* (for the offence) and, without any judgement-at-trial. Crew risk imprisonment under the Sentencing Act in default of fines levied under the FM Act. See **Baird** (2007).

Table 2: Apprehensions & Forfeitures of Fishing Vessels 2004 - 2007

|       | 2004-05       |                            | 2005-06       |                            | 2006-07       |                            |
|-------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
|       | Apprehensions | Legislative<br>Forfeitures | Apprehensions | Legislative<br>Forfeitures | Apprehensions | Legislative<br>Forfeitures |
| Jul   | 13            | 3                          | 3             | 41                         | 41            | 0                          |
| Aug   | 12            | 6                          | 8             | 21                         | 15            | 2                          |
| Sep   | 13            | 9                          | 27            | 71                         | 45            | 0                          |
| Oct   | 29            | 9                          | 59            | 26                         | 27            | 2                          |
| Nov   | 19            | 28                         | 29            | 47                         | 33            | 0                          |
| Dec   | 10            | 29                         | 48            | 27                         | 11            | 0                          |
| Jan   | 17            | 11                         | 21            | 12                         | 11            | 1                          |
| Feb   | 25            | 19                         | 35            | 19                         | 6             | 0                          |
| Mar   | 10            | 20                         | 46            | 4                          | 7             | 1                          |
| Apr   | 35            | 6                          | 32            | 6                          | 5             | 0                          |
| May   | 12            | 19                         | 37            | 6                          | 14            | 0                          |
| Jun   | 8             | 19                         | 22            | 1                          | 1             | 2                          |
| Total | 203           | 178                        | 367           | 281                        | 216           | 8*                         |

 $Source: \underline{http://www.customs.gov.au/webdata/minisites/annualReport0607/pages/page30.html}$ 

#### The Montara Oil-Rig Spill

At 4am WST, 21 August 2009, Australia's Montara oil-rig (operated by Thai-owned PTTEP) blew-out, spilling 30,000 *equivalent-barrels* of crude oil over the next 74 days into waters near Ashmore. Ashmore is 85nm/157km west from the well-head. Roti is 135nm/250km north-west from it. Darwin is 370nm/685km east of the well-head. **Map 4** shows the spreading plume of oil, moving out from the well-head.

Reported by **Kimberley Whale Watching (2009)**, NASA satellite imagery analysed by SkyTruth between 30 August and 1 November 2009 showed the oil slick and sheen cumulatively ranged over more than 62,000km<sup>2</sup> of the Timor Sea. The slick and sheen

Boats & gear forfeited

#### Montara blowout

was recorded within 64nm of the Timor coast. **King** *et al* (2010) noted that the spill occurred in relatively shallow coastal waters (less than 200 metres deep) such that the "tidal circulation component of the surface currents" was important to the drift of oil.

'Cleaning-up'

According to Australia's **AMSA** (2009), based on the audit of empty containers post-incident, the subsequent clean-up made use of large quantities of dispersants, including chemicals COREXIT EC9500 (@17,000L) and EC9527A (@27,720L). **COREXIT** is noted by its manufacturers to be more toxic to marine life, but less toxic to life along the shore and animals at the surface because the dispersant allows the oil to stay submerged below the surface of the water. This effect of remaining submerged is alleged to have destroyed fishing and seaweed grounds near Roti. An Australian barrister visited Roti in March 2010 and gathered affidavits from local villagers to that effect.

The **West Timor Care Foundation** in conjunction with **Bond University** made a submission about the loss of fish and seaweed stocks to the **Australian Inquiry** (**November 2010**) **into Montara**. The \$2.4 billion claim made by Indonesia's representatives regarding compensation for the environmental impacts of the oil-spill and its clean-up is reportedly ongoing today.

| SUMB | Montara Well Head Blowout Hindcast 99.96 Percentile - With Response (Skimming and Dispersant Application) | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 1909/8 | 190

Map 4: Montara's blowout spread oil north into Indonesian waters

Source: PTTEP Australasia (2011) citing: Asia-Pacific ASA S7.1, S7.2 scientific studies

**In summary**, the location of Australia's Ashmore reef so close to Indonesia's Roti island; the MOU's direct & indirect impacts on fishermen's livelihoods; the Australian authorities operations to apprehend Indonesian fishermen, to seize & destroy their perahu, gear & catch; and the Montara oil-spill & its clean-up have acted against the Indonesian small-boat fishermen's interests. It is submitted that the result of this 'causality' is that some fishermen have turned to crew the people smugglers' SIEVs.

RESPONSE to the INQUIRY'S TERMS of REFERENCE:

(a) age assessments by any 'officer' [at intercept of a SIEV] While all people-smuggling trials differ factually, the way in which investigators treat the crew from the outset of the intercept off Ashmore does have implications for the outcome of the prosecution. The case of *R v Sukarni & Ors* \* is a good example. The SIEV with 48 PII, including four Indonesians, arrived at Ashmore on 31 July 1999. The crew were issued with a 'detention notice' by a National Parks officer stationed on the *Aurelia IV* vessel who boarded the SIEV. The RAN ship, *HMAS Jervis Bay* arrived and took aboard all the PII. A second detention notice was issued and a 'Nominal Roll' of the PII was taken by the RAN. The AFP officers on board were directed to provide security by the RAN Commander. [\* Note, *trial* references are to *reported* cases].

The defence barrister at trial challenged the manner in which the crew were 'arrested' on *HMAS Jervis Bay*. The trial Judge ruled however that the AFP officers **did not take the crew into custody** during the journey from Ashmore to Darwin. The crew were simply in immigration detention and, not under arrest.

The *Sukarni* case exemplifies 'the drill' that Australian authorities should anticipate at every intercept of a SIEV. The authorities refrain from asking questions and understand where immigration detention ceases & arrest begins. The **Nominal Roll** does however include **recording the ages of all PII** including that of the crew.

My submission includes personal observation of information, *made public in open court* in 2011, during the district court trials of Indonesian crew charged with people smuggling offences. In one matter, a **boarding officer** *testified* that '**AFMA English/Indonesian language cards**' were used when issuing the detention notice to the crew and that the Nominal Roll was taken of all PII on the SIEV.

In a second matter, the defence conducted a *basha* to *cross-examine* the **boarding officer**, hoping to undermine his testimony about the events unfolding when issuing the detention notice to the Indonesian crew. The defence applied for the officer's entire statement to be ruled inadmissible under s.139(1) <u>Evidence Act</u>, arguing that the **crew were not 'cautioned'** when 'arrested'. The trial Judge rejected the argument, noting the exception under s.139(6) <u>Evidence Act</u> applied. The officer was **not 'arresting' the crew** but was **carrying out a power** under Australian law.

The defence then argued that the Judge had discretion under s.90 Evidence Act, citing the authority of the HCA in the *Swaffield* and *Pavic* cases, to exclude the officer's evidence on the grounds of 'unfairness, having regard to the circumstances' that the crew were 'vulnerable', citing the HCA in the *Foster* case.

The prosecution argued the officer was **exercising a power** to board the SIEV under s.245F <u>Migration Act</u>. The officer is **not an 'investigating official**' and ss.23A, 23B <u>Crimes Act</u> (Cmth) does not apply. The officer showed the crew the appropriate AFMA English/Indonesian translation cards. The crew acknowledged to the officer that they understood the cards explaining that they were being detained under Australian law. The Judge rejected the defence's application and allowed in evidence the officer's statement.

In a third matter, the defence in *cross-examination*, sought to undermine the credibility of the **boarding officer** and attempted to enter into evidence a **photograph of an accused crewman** taken by someone after the intercept, also showing the name of the accused crewman and **his age**. On the *voir dire*, the evidence was that the age was **transcribed from** information recorded on **the Nominal Roll** taken by someone at the time of the intercept. The prosecution objected to the tender of the photograph, arguing

that it was not part of the Crown case and it would not be adduced in evidence to identify the accused crewman. On the *voir dire*, the Judge noted the evidence-in-chief: the officer was not involved in the identification of the accused crew or in the taking of the Nominal Roll or, in taking the photograph. The photograph was **inadmissible**. The defence then argued that the photograph is a 'business record' and could be tendered as such in evidence. The Judge disagreed, as the **recorded age** on the photograph is **heresay**, being simply what someone wrote based on what someone told them at intercept. The boarding party did not test the information that someone else gave them. If the accused crewman gave the information, he could have been lying.

**In summary,** the age of the accused crew will be recorded in the Nominal Roll at intercept of the SIEV and may by transcribed/transposed, but no assessment or determination of age can be said to have been undertaken.

#### (b) age assessments during investigations [by DIAC]

**DIAC Records of Interview** (ROI) typically contain details of the accused crewmen, including their **age** / **d.o.b.** These ROI are taken **without giving the appropriate caution** [s.23F <u>Crimes Act (Cth)</u>], so are typically **inadmissible** at trial.

In one matter, on the *voir dire*, the accused crewman stated his **d.o.b.** during the DIAC ROI taken on Christmas Island – thereby recording his age as older than 18 years at the time of the intercept. The prosecution did not however adduce the **DIAC ROI** into evidence, as it was taken **without caution** to the accused crew and was therefore **inadmissible**. This state of affairs is not always the case.

In another matter, the defence in its *Opening Address* to the Jury **relied explicitly on the ROI** between an accused crewman and DIAC. On the *voir dire*, the prosecution challenged this aspect of the defence's opening and, arguing that the Crown could not have opened with such an un-cautioned ROI. The prosecution requested to call an additional witness from DIAC. The defence agreed, but wanted the **video-recording of the ROI** played in court. The defence would later play the video in open court, the accused speaking in a foreign language throughout. The defence also had the prosecution arrange for and tender a **transcript of the DIAC ROI** as evidence. In turn, the prosecution on the *voir dire*, referred to the otherwise inadmissible DIAC ROI. As the defence had opened with the **contents of the DIAC ROI**, the prosecution would be permitted to question a witness about the contents of the ROI.

In a third matter, on the *voir dire*, the prosecution remarked that a **procedure**, **similar to that undertaken at the boarding intercept**, was undertaken on Christmas Island **when DIAC interviewed** the crew. The prosecution tendered on the *voir dire* the (other-wise) inadmissible DIAC ROI to support its counter to the defence's argument concerning the detention procedure on the SIEV. The defence objected to the tender of the DIAC ROI arguing it didn't arise in the *basha* cross-examination. The Judge, on the *voir dire*, **allowed in the DIAC ROI**.

**In summary,** the DIAC ROI may record the 'age/d.o.b.' of the accused crew, but no age assessment or determination ('under caution') can be said to have been undertaken. Secondly, the DIAC ROI will not be admitted in evidence without leave of the court.

My submission will review the literature of physiological tests used to estimate age.

(c) age assessments tending to prosecution: It is however worth noting that in the examples of the matters considered in this submission, the *witness testimony* is that the voyages embarked from central Indonesia with 5-6 crewmen but arrived at Ashmore with only 3-4 crewmen. See **Table 3.** 

**Table 3: SIEV Crew Statistics** 

| Example #crew<br>Matter embarked |   | #crew<br>get off @ Roti | #crew<br>@ intercept |  |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------|--|
| #1                               | 6 | 2                       | 4                    |  |
| #2                               | 5 | 2                       | 3                    |  |

Testimony described these 'jumpers' variously as being 'dominant' on-board the respective voyages. In one matter, the corroborating passenger witness' *evidence-in-chief* was that at least five men crew another boat eastwards before meeting the empty SIEV off Roti island. Two crewmen departed on that other boat to Kupang and, the remaining crewmen plus all the passengers get onto the SIEV to Ashmore. See **Map 5**.

One concern

A concern therefore arising from these accounts is that this Inquiry might make recommendations that play into the hands of those who are the organisers of people smuggling. Be wary if this Inquiry creates a situation for Australian agencies that allows 'borderline' adult crew to escape charge due to 'technically unacceptable' age assessment errors yet may perversely encourage organisers to staff future SIEVs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg of the voyage with a majority of such crew (on 'training runs'?). The crew so deported may simply become the next kaptan of a SIEV who gets off at Roti and who-in-turn send fresh juveniles into the arms of the RAN / BPC.

Map 5: Roti & Kupang (two centres for sourcing SIEV crew) © Carto ANU 06-001 kilometres Timor Sulamu Sawu Sea Semau Kupang Island Timor Sea Pantai Baru Suoi Oenggai, Oelaba. Roti Island Source: Stacey (2007)

#### Literature Review: an introduction

### Focused Review of Literature

As I reviewed the literature\* about the relation between physiological (skeletal or dental) measures and chronological age, I understood an important issue. It became obvious that this Inquiry should not evaluate clinical methods of age assessment *per se*, but examine how age assessment of '*Indonesian male youths facing prosecution who claim they are juveniles*' is to be approached. [\* Note, 'author (year)' are *published* papers].

#### AHRC Discussion Paper

This Inquiry should not be about how age assessment of 'claimed juveniles, both male & female, seeking asylum and refugee status' is approached. However we have this Inquiry's **Discussion Paper** (**December 2011**) [at DP note 27] citing as reference the expert opinion of the "first Children's Commissioner for England ...into the circumstances of children and families seeking asylum" in the UK. The expert opinion report by **Aynsley-Green (2011)** is for an accused crewman in the people smuggling case of The Queen v Ako Lani, Ose Lani & John Ndollu, [cited at DP note 5]. Critical of the radiological **analysis of skeletal X-rays**, authorised by the AFP in the Ndollu case, Aynsley-Green (2011)'s original emphasis [at page 5], states:

"...radiology for age assessment is unethical, inaccurate, not fit for purpose..., and potentially unlawful....imaging of <u>bones or teeth</u> can NEVER tell <u>precisely</u> the chronological age".

However Aynsley-Green (2011) includes later in the same report [at page 11] comment by a colleague which Aynsley-Green (2011) *unreservedly agrees with*, that:

"TW3 [Tanner-Whitehouse 3] is a sophisticated bone scoring method...both more accurate and up-to-date than Grulich-Pyle [skeletal bone atlas]"

### UK asylum context

In conclusion, in the UK asylum-seeker setting, Aynsley-Green (2011)'s ultimate recommendation in his report for the *Ndollu case* is for age assessment that is a "*holistic multi-professional approach*" [at page 17]. (Note, <u>underlining</u> is my emphasis).

**Aynsley-Green (2009)** wrote a 'Letter to the Editor' titled "*Unethical Age Assessment*" published in the British Dental Journal [Vol.206 No.7 April 11 2009]. This letter followed upon an earlier 'Letter to the Editor' [Vol.205 No.11 December 13 2008] from **Cole (2008)** titled "*Hot Potato Topic*". What was the issue?

It was a paper by **Roberts** *et al* (2008) headed "*Dental Age Assessment* (*DAA*):..." also published in the British Dental Journal. Cole (2008) had written about the Roberts *et al* (2008) paper, saying:

"...methodological weaknesses of the [DAA] method described by Roberts et al make it unsuitable for assessment of dental age...particularly in emerging adults"

In the same 2008 edition of the Journal, Roberts et al (2008) responded, as follows:

"...to date, our approach has provided one of the most accurate estimates of age. This is supported by the excellent results obtained when we [compared it to] subjects of known chronological age"

In the letter to the Editor, "<u>Unethical</u> Age Assessment" as cited above, Aynsley-Green (2009) wrote that the UK Government "faces a serious practical dilemma in deciding

how to manage an individual <u>seeking asylum</u> who claims to be a child, yet who may not have evidence...to document age"

Aynsley-Green (2009) added that the government is "... seeking a [objective evidence-based] method which will tell with great sensitivity the precise 'age' of the person, but sadly in focusing on dental X-rays they do not have what they are seeking..."

Aynsley-Green (2009) recommends instead that age assessment "...be performed...in a <u>holistic way</u> led by trained <u>social workers</u> who can <u>interpret the narrative</u> of the individual's circumstance, coupled with expert paediatric, psychological and education assessment to determine the needs of the individual...".

Two of the authors of the Roberts *et al* (2008) paper, namely **Roberts, G. & Lucas, V.** (2009) make a lengthy and detailed rejoinder to Aynsley-Green (2009), entitled "<u>Ethical Dental Age Assessment</u>" published in the British Dental Journal [Vol.207 No.6 September 26 2009] that "... Professor Sir Aynsley-Green...has long been an opponent of age assessment using dental radiographs". Robert & Lucas (2009) reject Aynsley-Green (2009) as being "misleading exaggeration", "gross overstatement", "incorrect" and "not true".

Roberts & Lucas (2009) added that "...the proposal to assess the age of children '...in a holistic way...' would be acceptable if there was any evidence that this method were of value...it has not been possible to find any <u>objective research</u> indicating the reliability of age estimates using this holistic method...In this day of <u>evidence-based</u> clinical practice this is a fatal shortcoming and...unacceptable...".

The UK refugee system might take months for social workers to perform their holistic age assessment. Unlike the UK context, this Inquiry is <u>not</u> concerned with juveniles seeking asylum and refuge. This Inquiry is concerned with claimed 'juvenile' crew who are detained for potential charge / charged on very serious criminal matters and who are being held respectively in Australia's adult detention camps / jails. So why don't the authorities just move those crew claiming juvenile status to facilities housing children whilst their claim is assessed? Roberts & Lucas (2009) make the point:

"...[detained] young men in their twenties claiming to be under [age] ...may be placed in close association with young girls and boys who will not have the maturity to cope with the behaviour exhibited by these men. This is an aspect of age assessment that Sir Albert has overlooked".

Importantly, asylum seekers are not charged with any criminal offence. By contrast, people smuggling is a serious crime. The accused crewmen are answering to that allegation, if charged. There are some very real differences between seeking asylum and defending potential criminal charges of facilitating people-smuggling. These are along a spectrum from 'age assessment', through 'credibility evaluation' to 'the burden of proof' (and 'the balance of probabilities'). On these latter points, see the case of *AJ v The Queen* as discussed at **Response to Term of Reference (h).** 

#### "Assessing age or Assessing needs": a literature review

Based on systematic PubMed searching, **Brendler-Lindqvist** (2010) (hereafter 'B-L' (2010)) carried out a literature review of the skeletal/dental/holistic methods of age assessment of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC). Of a total of 162

web-hits/articles found, 13 articles were considered relevant and contemporary by B-L (2010). The 13 articles are listed below in **Table 4**.

Systematic PubMed literature search

B-L (2010) makes plain that her review does not include all literature about the relation between physiological measures and chronological age. Rather her focus is age assessment of asylum-seeking *children still living*, especially UASC whose chronological ages are unknown or *undocumented*.

**Table 4: Literature Review of Age Assessment of UASC** 

| #  | Author                       | Publication Type                              | Methods<br>Addressed             | Publication             |
|----|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1  | Aynsley-Green (2009)         | Letter  | Holistic approach                | Br Dental J.            |
| 2  | Benson & Williams (2008)     | Case report                                   | Holistic approach                | Aust. Fam.<br>Physician |
| 3  | Cole (2008)                  | Letter  | Dental age assessment            | Br Dental J.            |
| 4  | Garamendi et al. (2005)      | Reproducibility of results                    | Skeletal & Dental age assessment | Forensic<br>Sci. Int.   |
| 5  | Michie (2005)                | Review  | Holistic approach                | Arch. Dis. Child        |
| 6  | Olze et al. (2006)           | Review  | Dental age assessment            | Forensic<br>Sci. Int.   |
| 7  | Roberts et al. (2008)        | Research                                      | Dental age assessment            | Br Dental J.            |
| 8  | Roberts & Lucas (2009)       | Letter  | Dental age assessment            | Br Dental J.            |
| 9  | Santoro <i>et al.</i> (2009) | Retrospective study                           | Skeletal & Dental age assessment | Forensic<br>Sci. Int.   |
| 10 | Schmeling et al. (2001)      | Commentary                                    | Skeletal & Dental age assessment | Lancet                  |
| 11 | Schmeling et al. (2003)      | Retrospective study                           | Skeletal & Dental age assessment | Leg. Med.               |
| 12 | Schmeling et al. (2006)      | Review  | Skeletal age assessment          | Forensic<br>Sci. Int.   |
| 13 | Solheim & Vonen (2006)       | Forensic methods & standards/ quality control | Dental age<br>assessment         | Forensic<br>Sci. Int.   |

Source: B-L (2010)

#### **Skeletal Age Assessment**

B-L (2010) cites **Benson & Williams** (Table 4; #2) as authority for (i) variations in sexual maturation influencing the variation in skeletal age and (ii) the difficulty of age estimation after the adolescent period because 'changes in the carpals' (of the hand) are not clear. This latter point means the X-ray of the hand/wrist using the 'Greulich-Pyle method' cannot be used to assess age after a 'fusion of the epiphyseal plates' (wrist joints) which occurs at the mean age of 18 years in boys. B-L (2010) cites **Schmeling** *et al* (12) as authority for this latter point and for the standard deviation of the Greulich-Pyle method being 1.1 years *for boys at higher ages*.

In addition, as cited by B-L (2010), according to Schmeling *et al* (12), an X-ray or CT of the 'sternal end of the clavicle' is recommended in boys thought to be older than 18 years. According to **Santoro** *et al* (9), as cited by B-L (2010), an X-ray of the pelvis in addition to the hand/wrist is useful in "borderline cases of sub-adult [males]" as the 'iliac crest' appears at 16 years and fuses with the 'iliac bone' at 19 years; whilst the 'iliac tuberosity' appears at 17 years and fuses at 20 years. I observe however that a range of 16/17 - 19/20 years would appear to be of limited value if this Inquiry's task is

recommending methods of "precisely" assessing age to fall one side or the other of a crewman's 18th birthday. Perhaps, this Inquiry might define 'age determination' to be the 'lower bound' (vis-à-vis the 'upper bound') of probable physiological ages for a crewman? So giving the 'juvenile' the maximum benefit of the doubt. Contrast, the 'mid-point of the range' being the 'least extreme' / 'error prone' estimate of age.

### Social & Ethnic variation

Of particular interest to the Inquiry is the **social & ethnic variation** of bone development, given its target group is almost without exception the Indonesian male youth of Nusa Tenggara Timur province. B-L (2010) cites **Garamendi** *et al* (4) for reviewing a large number of studies on the impact of racial, ethnic and socioeconomic factors and finding the results to be contradictory. But according to Schmeling *et al* (11, 12), as cited by B-L (2010), delays in bone development are a result of <u>low socioeconomic status</u>, not ethnicity. If that is the case, skeletal age tests would <u>underestimate chronological age</u> and would <u>work-in-favour</u> of crew receiving an (under-18) age assessment result. For more, see **Jahari** *et al* (2000) as to effects of low nutrition on Indonesian infants' skeletal development.

### Age Estimation error types

The part of Garamendi *et al* (4) which I found most useful to this Inquiry is the distinction that these authors draw between "<u>technically</u> unacceptable errors" and "<u>ethically</u> unacceptable errors". From a practical perspective, 'technically unacceptable errors' (i.e. 'false negative results') would see a crewman over 18 years assessed as a juvenile and thereby avoiding charge. Whereas 'ethically unacceptable errors' (i.e. 'false positive results') would have a crewman under 18 years assessed as an adult, charged & remanded as such, and perhaps convicted & jailed as an adult. In my submission, this Inquiry should regard that its primary task is to recommend processes and procedures that eliminate 'ethically unacceptable errors'.

'Technically unacceptable errors' however present a dilemma for this Inquiry. On the one hand, some might say that sending home a crewman over 18 years who is mistakenly assessed as a juvenile is unimportant. On the other hand such a crewman, having done his 'training run' and sent home, may simply become the next *kaptan* of a SIEV who gets off at Roti, and who-in-turn sends fresh juveniles into the arms of the RAN / BPC.

#### **Dental Age Assessment**

#### Third molars: Demirjian stages

B-L (2010) cites **Olze** *et al* (6) for recommending assessment of the degree of maturity of teeth using the '*Demirjian method*'. In late adolescence (after 17 years), assessment of dental age can be based on the '*third molars*', as these are the only teeth which are continuing to form (i.e. denoted by Demirjian as 'Stage G / H'). Other studies indicate a standard deviation of about two years for third molar formation. **Solheim & Vonen** (13) is cited by B-L (2010), for the methods used for dental age assessment in Norway and these methods yield a standard deviation of about two years. In Norway, the <u>lower bound</u> of the dental age estimate is used for age assessment. See **Kvittingen (2010)**, p.18

Also mentioned by B-L (2010), it is useful to appreciate that the presence (or absence) of the first and second molars may possibly influence the formation of the third molar. In the studies sourced by B-L (2010) there was however considerable disagreement regarding the importance of racial, ethnic and socioeconomic/nutritional factors upon dental maturation. For example, **Roberts** *et al* (7) claim external conditions only have minimal effect on dental age. Solheim & Vonen (13) disagree, believing that "*ethnic difference means less than individual variation*".

#### **Combination of Methods**

#### Statistics vis-à-vis Verification

Santoro *et al* (9), as cited by B-L (2010), compared assessed age by physical examination, X-ray of hand/wrist, dental development and, X-ray of pelvis to find '*statistically significant differences*'. Schmeling *et al* (11) did the same comparisons against 'verified chronological age' and found a deviation between estimated and verified age of +/- 12 months in all but a few cases; and where <u>the difference</u> was greater than 12 months, it was <u>attributable to the verification sources not the age assessment</u>. Garamendi *et al* (4) likewise found a mean difference of 1.07 years between hand/wrist X-ray and verified chronological age, with a standard deviation of 1.76 years. However, Garamendi *et al* (4) cast <u>doubt on the (Moroccan) Birth Registration records as veracity of chronological age</u>. This latter point is quite important in the context of this Inquiry. See the **Response to Term of Reference (d)** wherein doubts about the veracity of Indonesian identity records might be very real. Also see **Hailu** *et al* **(2011)** as to the same issue with Ethiopian birth records.

#### **Holistic Evaluation**

Opposing camps in the UK asylum system

The proponents of holistic evaluation, cited by B-L (2010), include Benson & Williams (2), **Aynsley-Green** (1) and **Michie** (5). Benson & Williams (2) presented an 'age assessment tool' which is underpinned by the 'parent's narrative account' of the child's upbringing. B-L (2010) sees a practical problem using such a tool where the child is an UASC; let alone an Indonesian crewman telling his story hoping to avoid a serious criminal charge! In any case, this 'age assessment tool' has accuracy "within a range of approximately two years". More so, its authors add that the result "should be expressed for educational purposes only". If only this Inquiry's task was "...education assessment to determine the needs of the individual [Indonesian crewman]", it would be so much easier to achieve recommendations.

B-L (2010) confirm the Aynsley-Green (1) holistic evaluation approach, as cited above, and cite the Michie (5) approach as one which recommends trained assessors at major ports of entry, being "social workers experienced with adolescents, accountable to and audited by a child protection team with paediatric opinion available to them in some form".

The opponents of holistic approaches include **Roberts & Lucas** (8), as mentioned above. B-L (2010) doesn't take sides in the argument, simply noting that <u>physiological measures</u> focus on establishing the chronological <u>age as accurately as possible</u>, whereas the focus of the <u>holistic</u> approaches is on <u>evaluating the needs</u> of the individual. For example, the Benson & Williams (2) approach "will ensure [individuals receive]... correct vaccinations, [that they] are taught at suitable schools and are appropriately served by ... hospitals, and dentists".

It appears to me that opposing supporters of physiological measures versus holistic approaches would be talking at cross-purposes when it comes to age assessment of Indonesian crew detained on potential people-smuggling charges.

#### Other Literature: European developments

I have examined dozens of articles on the topic of **Forensic Age Estimation (FAE) of the living**, enough to know that the experts disagree about age assessment methods. See **Appendix B: References (Age Assessment)**.

**AGFAD** 

In particular, I urge this Inquiry to also examine the sample of 10 published works listed in **Table 5**, including, the guidelines by **Schmeling et al** (Table 5; #23). I note that **Black et al (2010)** indicates "...there is no doubt that Germany leads with regard to the research ... This [German] study group has given recommendations for forensic age estimation in [the] living...". According to recommendations of the **Study Group on Forensic Age Diagnostics** (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Forensische Altersdiagnostik, **AGFAD**), "age estimations for living adolescents and young adults should consist of a physical examination (including anthropometric data, signs of sexual maturation, and potential age-relevant developmental disorders) and a radiograph of the left hand, as well as a dental examination, including recording of the dentition status and evaluation of an orthopantogram. At the age of 18, the hand ossification, third molar mineralization, and sexual maturation should be complete". [ref. **Ward (2011)**].

**Table 5: Sample of Other Literature Reviewed** 

| #  | Author           | Publication Type       | Methods<br>Addressed  | Publication       |
|----|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 14 | Andrade          | Bivarate research      | Combined Skeletal &   | Int. J. Acad.     |
|    | & Ferreira       | use of confidence      | Dental age            | Research          |
|    | (2011)           | intervals              | assessment            |                   |
| 15 | Giordano et al.  | Automated TW2          | Skeletal age          | MEMEA IEEE        |
|    | (2009)           | Research               | assessment            |                   |
| 16 | Gurdeep et al    | Automated CT Clavicle  | Skeletal age          | J. Indian Acad    |
|    | (2010)           | Research               | assessment            | Forensic Med.     |
| 17 | Hillewig et al   | Automated MRI Clavicle | Skeletal age          | Eur Radiol        |
|    | (2011)           | Research               | assessment            |                   |
|    |                  | UASC Resource Book     | Combination of        |                   |
| 18 | IOM Vienna       | for European law       | Psychosocial          | AGIS 2005         |
|    | (2006)           | enforcement            | Interview, Skeletal & | Project           |
|    |                  |                        | Dental age assessment |                   |
| 19 | Nicoletti (2007) | Scoring percentiles    | Skeletal age          | Inst. Legal Med.  |
|    | , , ,            | Presentation           | assessment            |                   |
| 20 | Niemeijer et al  | Automated TW Research  | Skeletal age          | SPIE Med.         |
|    | (2003)           |                        | assessment            | Imaging           |
| 21 | Prieto (2007)    | Third Molar incl.      | Dental age            | Inst. Legal Med.  |
|    | , , , ,          | IOFOS, Presentation    | assessment            |                   |
| 22 | Rötzscher &      | Review                 | Skeletal & Dental     | Int Poster J Dent |
|    | Grundmann (2007) |                        | age assessment        | Oral Med.         |
| 23 | Schmeling et al. | FAE Guidelines in      | Physical Examination, |                   |
|    | (2000)           | Criminal Proceedings   | Skeletal & Dental age | AGFAD             |
|    |                  |                        | assessment            |                   |

**IOFOS** 

Presentations by **Nicoletti** (19) and **Prieto** (21) are excellent for relaying respectively **skeletal age** (**atlases** *vis-à-vis* **scoring**) statistical concepts and '**third molar**' dental age estimates. Prieto (21) also refers to dental age '*Quality Assurance*' guidelines; see **IOFOS** (2008). **Rötzscher & Grundmann** (22) reviews skeletal & dental age assessment **methods-used-in-combination. Andrade & Ferreira** (14), **Giordano** *et al* (15), **Gurdeep** *et al* (16), **Hillewig** *et al* (17) and **Niemeijer** *et al* (20) point in the direction of **automation of skeletal age** assessment.

**IOM Vienna** 

The Resource Book compiled by the **IOM Vienna** (18) is a practical guide (esp. pg.63-64). It illuminates what is achieved by European investigatory agencies at least since 2006, including the 'conditions, preparations and use of evidential interviews' (ref. pg.119-153). It (at pg.59) gives the relative **cost of X-ray** / Computed Tomograph, CT / MRI; and quantifies the relative "**effective dose**" of radiation exposure of X-ray

(hand)/orthopantomogram OPG (dental) / X-ray / CT (clavicle). See **Table 6**.

#### **Table 6: Examination cost and Radiation dose**

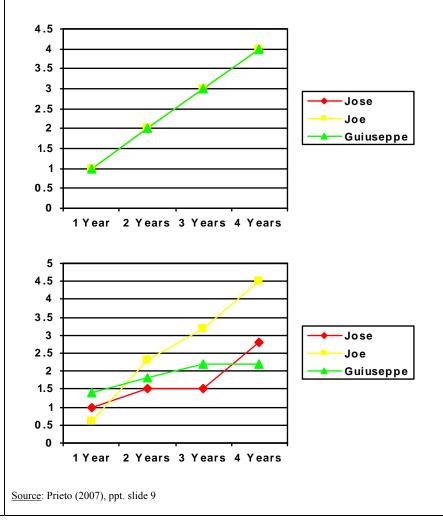
#### Cost versus Radiation

| Examination Costs                         |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Hand X-ray, max. three images             | 57.67 Euro           |
| Chest X-ray, posterior/anterior & oblique | 40.10 Euro           |
| Single slice CT max. 30 slices            | 225.61 Euro          |
| Multislice CT max. 300 slices             | 175.54 Euro          |
| MRI, the first sequence                   | 405.39 Euro          |
| "Effective Dose" of Radiation             |                      |
| X-ray, left hand                          | 0.1 μSv              |
| Dental OPG                                | 26 μSv               |
| X-ray, clavicle                           | 220 μSv              |
| CT, clavicle                              | 600 μSv <sup>^</sup> |

Source: IOM Vienna (2006), pg.59

In reviewing the literature, the clichéd criticism of age assessment methods is their **non-linear relation** with **chronological age**. **Prieto** (21) responds quite elegantly in two *stylistic* charts, as seen below. Chronological age (the upper chart) follows its inexorable course be it for 'Jose, Joe, or Guiuseppe'. Biological age (the lower chart) follows a more irregular & non-constant path, different each for 'Jose, Joe and Guiuseppe'. Prieto however notes the "temporal variability of development stages is limited due to genetic control...this variability...[is] inside predictable margins".

#### Linear versus Non-Linear



<sup>^</sup> the Resource Book notes that dose is too high and may be difficult to implement legally

### Ethical considerations

In closing this Response to Term of Reference (c), as clearly there is no single answer, I refer the Inquiry to one of the more curious articles in my literature review. **Weale** (2001) refers to the **Schmeling** *et al* (2001) examination of skeletal age but reminds the interested reader of the early life of the *post-Impressionist*, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. *Reputedly*, his legs ceased to grow at age 14 so that as an adult he was only 1.5 metres tall, having developed an adult-sized torso while retaining his child-sized legs which were only 0.7 metres long. He however had hypertrophied genitals. There would no doubt be some **ethical considerations** in making an age assessment based on physical examination alone, were there to be such a pint-sized Indonesian crewman with an enlarged scrotum! Weale suggests that three attributes of the eye ('lacrimation, fluorescence of the cornea and lens, and accommodation') offer linear change with chronological age and present opportunities for non-invasive assessment. Weale notes the need for specialist equipment and training to assess 'age... and crime'.

(d) processes to contact parent/guardian and obtain age assessment documentation:

The Inquiry's desire is no doubt that processes be instituted to contact the parent/guardian of the accused crewman claiming to be under 18 years old, and for identity documentation to support age assessment to be sourced from Indonesia. There are complications that might arise: locating the parent/guardian; the veracity of documentation; and interpreting language in the local *daerah* (dialect / *creole*) of the crewman. The matters considered in my submission highlight these issues.

### Locating the parent/guardian

On the issue of parent/guardian, in one matter, the crewman's uncorroborated testimony was that he resides in Kupang, having left his home-village on Flores island a decade earlier, when his **dad died**. His mum sent him, as a mere child, to be raised by an unrelated person in another village. Upon ending his schooling early, this crewman left Flores and went to Kupang looking for work. A few years later, he was recruited in the Kupang marketplace for the boat voyage. He had **no contact with his mum**.

#### Lack of Birth Registration

In any case, even if the parent/guardian is contacted, the **sourcing of a crewman's birth certificate** is possibly going to be a frustrating endeavour. UNICEF (2010) using the latest 2004 data, reports that "in Indonesia, 60 per cent of children under five years are not officially registered at birth. Although born in Indonesia of Indonesian parents, these children have no legal identity. Indonesia ranks in the bottom 20 countries of the world in its registration of children and the problem is worse in rural areas [such as NTT province where most crew hail from]".

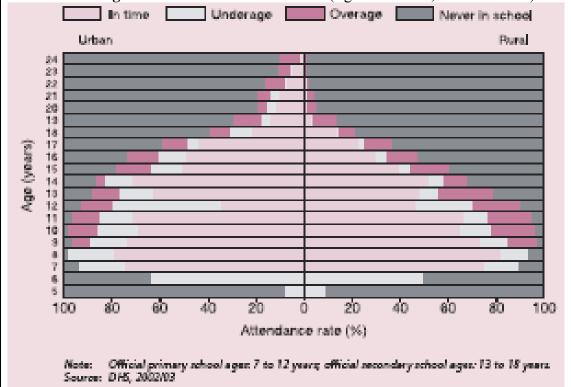
UNICEF adds that "birth registration in Indonesia was only made officially free of charge in 2002 when the Law on Child Protection was adopted. A new administration in 2006 provided for free birth registration for newborns up to two months old. The government has further committed for all children in Indonesia to be registered by 2011. The number of local governments who have introduced free of charge birth certificates has increased from 16 districts in 2005 to more than 300 districts in 2009. Amongst those localities that have introduced birth registration programmes there are (however) broad definitions of the age by which registration should have taken place – from...two months up to 18 years old".

All these positive developments come too late for the crew today claiming juvenile status. If their birth registration is late / non-existent, it could put in doubt the accuracy of age/d.o.b. on any identity document for a crewman, including their school records (assuming they went to school?) and even their Republic of Indonesia Resident

Veracity of documents

**Identity Card (Kartu Tanda Penduduk, KTP).** The **dark rose-coloured** horizontal bars on the right-hand side of **Chart 1** show that the occurrence of 'overage' children (i.e. children starting school late) in rural Indonesia was quite prevalent in 2003. One *suspects* the incidence of such in the 1990s may have been even higher, so casting doubt on **school records** as an accurate marker of age. In that case, investigators would fall back on the memories of the parent/guardian as to when the crewman was born, some 16 to 20+ years earlier. One could challenge the veracity of an affidavit by a parent/guardian as to the d.o.b. of a crewman, if it lacks evidence-based information.

Chart 1: Overage Rural Children in Indonesia (right-hand side, dark rose-bars)



Source: UNESCO (2005)

Judicial discretion

In any case, the parent/guardian witness statement may be challenged if the witness is out of State and unavailable by video/audio link to testify. A trial Judge has discretion to admit the statement or not: see *Chaudhry v The Queen*. The judiciary also has discretion to give a '*Liberato Direction*' to the Jury when there is conflict between the evidence of a defence witness and that of a prosecution witness: see *Kia v The Queen*.

Secondary evidence of birth certificate

The appellate court case of *Stoykovski* [AFP] v "M" [a child] explicitly examined proof of age by weighing-up the (secondary) evidence of Indonesian birth record versus the hand & wrist X-ray. The court, citing *Cross on Evidence* for when a (birth certificate) document is lost and *cannot be found after due search*, thought the document may be proved by secondary evidence where that evidence is not heresay. In this case, the **credibility of M's testimony** outweighed the skeletal age estimation.

Interpreting languages of NTT province

On the issue of language, in one matter on the *voir dire*, the defence's submission was that the quality of Indonesian language interpreting on Christmas island was 'substandard' during the time when the accused crewman gave his ROI to DIAC. According to the defence, on the *voir dire*: In the presence of a DIAC interviewing officer and a *Bahasa Indonesian* interpreter, the crewman spoke in an (unnamed) Indonesian *daerah* (i.e. dialect/creole) when talking on the telephone to his relative

back in Indonesia. The **interpreter** was **unable to understand and translate** to the officer what the accused was saying to the relative.

In another matter, an accused crewman gave uncorroborated *testimony* of being born in a village on Flores island, of residing now in Kupang and, that whilst on the SIEV he **did not understand the other Indonesian crewmen** [who when together apparently spoke *Rotinese*]. He testified however to having conversed once/twice [communicating presumably in *Kupang Malay creole*] with the youngest of these Roti crewmen, when the latter pointed out his village on the shore of Roti island.

In a third matter, the Bahasa Indonesian interpreter, supplied by the CDPP, was *affirmed to interpret* for the accused crewman in the dock. There was nothing put on-the-record regarding this **interpreter's qualifications or accreditation**. On the *voir dire*, the defence foreshadowed a problem, submitting that this interpreter had earlier remarked to the AFP of the **difficulty this interpreter had interpreting and communicating** with the crewman.

Another Bahasa Indonesian interpreter was later *affirmed as an expert witness*. The interpreter confirmed their qualifications as **Professional Interpreter** (i.e. old 'NAATI Level 3'). The interpreter gave *testimony*, that:

- (i) the accused crewman spoke a 'creole' of Kupang; and
- (ii) the interpreter had done research into Bahasa Kupang Malay to assist with the interpreting for this accused crewman.

The placename of **Kupang** arises repeatedly in people-smuggling trials. It is therefore considered prudent in the context of this Response to Term of Reference (d) to examine the language that crew from Kupang commonly speak. Indications are *Bahasa Kupang Malay* is a different language to Bahasa Indonesian:

Whilst 19% of 3200 Bahasa Kupang Malay headwords are exactly the same as standard

Bahasa Indonesian, 55% are *very different from* standard Indonesian; 26% are *similar to* standard Indonesian words, but there are slight differences in its pronunciation, its spelling, its behaviour in the grammar, its use, or its range of meaning:

11% are *idioms* that reflect figurative meanings;

54% are composed of single words;

36% are composed of *phrasal lexemes* (2 or more words);

24% are borrowing from other languages (other than Malay or Indonesian);

10% are borrowed from *Rote languages*;

8% are borrowed from *Dutch*;

1% is borrowed from *Portuguese*; and

7% have variant forms in Kupang (e.g. batong ~ botong).

Source: Grimes, C., Jacob, J. (2008)

We in the West might know of the word, 'Malay'. Yet it is a rather ambiguous term. Malay is not only the language of Malaysia, i.e. the Bahasa Melayu. It has more than a dozen language variants, including Bahasa Indonesian and Bahasa Kupang Malay.

Bahasa Indonesian is of course the <u>official</u> language of Indonesia. It is the language of government, the courts and big business. So much so, that for Indonesians, to be speaking Bahasa Kupang Malay is to be speaking 'broken Indonesian'. The latter term translates as 'Bahasa Indonesia yang rusak'.

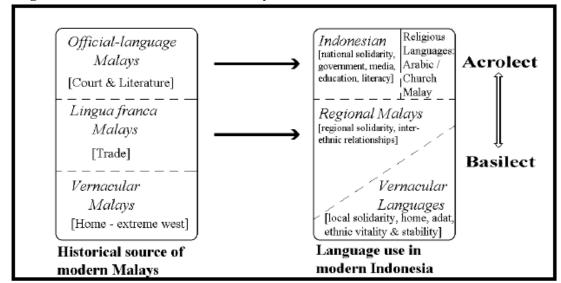
#### **Kupang Malay**

A fisherman, born & resident of Kupang would likely know Bahasa Kupang Malay is also the language of the traders in Kupang's Oeba marketplace, that is, the *Bahasa Pasar* (literally the 'market language'). Bahasa Kupang Malay is a language without link to any single ethnic group. It is an inter-ethnic *lingua franca*. It is a Malay-based pidgin that has evolved into a creole. It is adopted by persons whose grandparents/parents moved to live and work in the Kupang area of NTT province. In a sort of post-creole continuum, speakers slide back & forth between 'high form' Bahasa Indonesian and 'lower form' Bahasa Kupang Malay.

**Diagram 2** shows that Trade language (Kupang Malay) sits between the Official language (Indonesian) and vernacular Malays found today in western Indonesia (Sumatra) and in the immediately adjacent nation state of Malaysia.

**Diagram 2: Sources and Uses of Malay** 

Post-creole continuum



Source: Jacob, J., Grimes, B. (2006)

The **popular use of Bahasa Kupang Malay** among the residents of Kupang is reflected in the following story from contemporary school children in Kupang:

#### Kotong Bakawan

Beta pung nama Legowo, ma dong pange sang beta, bilang Ook. Beta lahir di Kupang. Beta pung orang tua tu, orang Jawa. Be pung tamán, ampa orang; andia Udin, Richard, Bagus deng Edi. Udin pung papa-mama orang Ende; Richard orang Rote; Bagus orang Bali; deng Edi orang Sabu.

Beta sonde bisa basa Jawa; Udin sonde bisa basa Ende; Richard sonde bisa basa Rote; Bagus sonde bisa basa Bali; Edi ju sonde bisa basa Sabu. Kotong ba'omong pake basa Kupang sa.

Hari-hari kotong bamaen di SMU I. Kotong bamaen kalereng, kayu do'i, deng bola kaki. Kalo su cape bamaen, kotong dudu-dudu maen gila di bawa pohong kadondong utan. Richard ana yang lucu, bekin kotong katawa sampe parú saki. Kotong bakawan, sonde parná bakalai.

#### We're Friends

My name is Legowo, but they call me Ook. I was born in Kupang. My parents are Javanese. I have four friends, who are: Udin, Richard, Bagus and Edi. Udin's parents are from Ende; Richard is [ethnically] from Rote; Bagus is Balinese; and Edi is from Sabu.

<u>I can't speak Javanese</u>; <u>Udin can't speak Ende</u>; <u>Richard can't speak Rote</u>; <u>Bagus can't speak</u> <u>Balinese</u>; and Edi can't speak Sabu. We just talk to each other using Kupang Malay.

Each day we play at school. We play marbles, flip stick, and football. When we're tired playing,

we sit and joke around. Richard tells funny stories and makes us laugh until our stomachs hurt. We're friends, we've never fought.

Source: Jacob, J., Grimes, B. (2006)

#### Languages of Indonesia's Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) province

#### Language maps

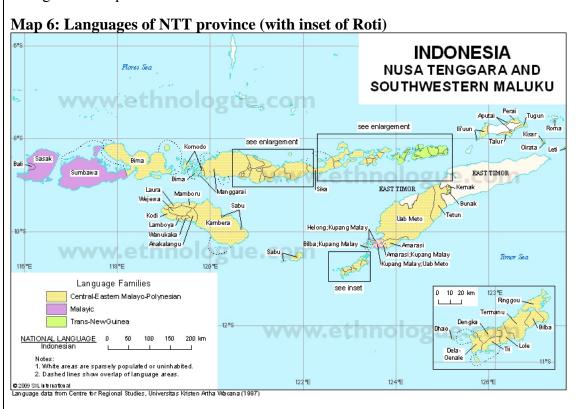
The total number of individual languages listed for NTT is 76. All are living languages. Other than Bahasa Indonesian and Kupang Malay, it is thought that three further language variants arose in the factual background of the people smuggling matters considered in this submission: that is, **Rotinese**, **Endenese**, and **Sasak**. All are languages of NTT province.

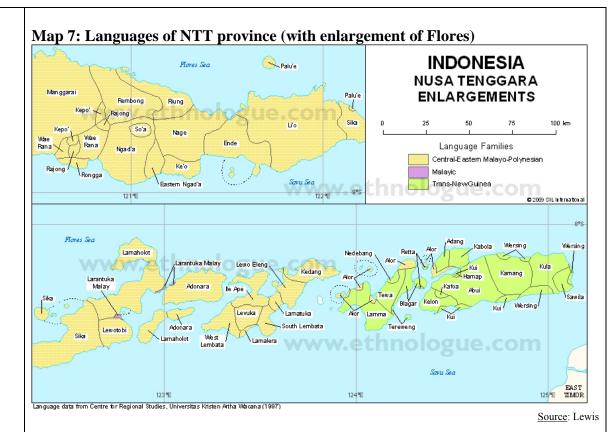
As mentioned, the use of **Kupang Malay** is in the area around Kupang on West Timor island. See **Map 6**. The variations of **Rotinese** are on Roti island. See the inset in lower right hand corner of **Map 6**. The use of **Endenese** is in the area around Ende on (central) Flores island. See the upper half of **Map 7**. The use of **Sasak** is on Lombok island. See far left of **Map 6**.

#### Advocacy

**In summary**, it is my submission that the processes to contact parent/guardian and to obtain identity documentation may well be frustrated by the veracity of documents as to age-identification, language/interpreter issues and/or, a separation of the crewman from his place of birth/childhood. Where age is disputed, the court may apply the process described in the case of *Stoykovski* [AFP] *v* "M" [a Child].

Additionally, for more on the Indonesian language and the variant languages thought to have been encountered in the prosecution matters of this submission, see the detailed listings after Maps 6 & 7.





#### More on the Indonesian language and four variant languages

#### (Bahasa) Indonesian

A language of Indonesia (Java and Bali islands)

ISO 639-3: ind

Ethnic Population 22,800,000 in Indonesia (2000). All countries: 23,187,680.

Region Widespread in Indonesia. Also in Netherlands, Philippines, Saudi

Arabia, Singapore and, the United States.

Alternative names Bahasa Indonesia

Classification Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayo-Sumbawan, North

and East, Malayic, Malay

Language use Official national language. Over 140,000,000 L2 speakers.

Language Fully developed. Bible: 1974–2000.

development

Writing system Arabic script. Latin script.

Comments Reportedly modeled on Riau Malay [zlm] of northeast Sumatra.

Has regional variants. Over 80% cognate with Standard Malay

[zsm]. Muslim.

#### (Bahasa) Kupang Malay

A language of Indonesia (Nusa Tenggara Timur NTT province)

ISO 639-3: mkn

Ethnic Population 200,000 (1997 M. Jacob).

Region West Timor island, Kupang area.

Alternative names Basa Kupang, Kupang Dialects Air Mata. 2 dialects.

Classification Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayo-Sumbawan, North

and East, Malayic, Malay, Trade, East Indonesian

<u>Language use</u> **Vigorous**. L2 speakers. All domains. All ages. <u>Language</u> Newspapers. Radio programs. Dictionary (2007).

development

Writing system Latin script.

<u>Comments</u> Loanwords from Rote, Portuguese, Chinese, Uab Meto (Atoni)

[aoz], Sabu [hvn], Spanish, Dutch [nld], English. Christian.

#### Rotinese / Dengka

A language of Indonesia (Nusa Tenggara Timur NTT province)

ISO 639-3: dnk

Ethnic Population 20,000 (2002 UKAW).

Region Roti island northwest, Dengka and Lelain domains, east of Dela-

Oenale [row], west of Lole (Ba'a).

Alternative names Rote, Rote Barat, Roti, Rotinese, Western Rote

Dialects Western Dengka, Eastern Dengka, Lelain. Western Dengka

dialect has marked intonation; some occurrences of 'ngg' in Eastern Dengka dialect become 'nd' in Western Dengka. Some vocabulary of Western Dengka is like Dhao [nfa]. Dengka and Dela-Oenale [row] are more divergent from other languages on

Rote.

<u>Classification</u> Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Central-Eastern, Central

Malayo-Polynesian, Timor, Extra-Ramelaic, West

Language use Vigorous. All domains. All ages. Also use Kupang Malay [mkn]

/ Indonesian [ind].

<u>Language</u> Bible portions: 2004.

development

<u>Comments</u> Christian, traditional religion.

#### **Endenese**

A language of Indonesia (Nusa Tenggara Timur NTT province)

ISO 639-3: end

Ethnic Population 87,000 (Wurm and Hattori 1981). 78,000 Ende, 9,000 Nga'o.

Region Lesser Sundas, **south central Flores island**, west of Sikka.

Alternative names Endeh

<u>Dialects</u> Ende (Endeh, Ja'o, Djau), Nga'o (Ngao, West Ende). A dialect

subgroup. Li'o [ljl] may be a dialect of Ende.

<u>Classification</u> Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Central-Eastern, Central

Malayo-Polynesian, Bima-Sumba, Ende-Lio

<u>Comments</u> Christian.

#### Sasak

A language of Indonesia (Nusa Tenggara Timur NTT province)

ISO 639-3: sas

Ethnic Population 2,100,000 (1989). Region Lombok island.

Alternate names Lombok

Dialects Kuto-Kute (North Sasak), Ngeto-Ngete (Northeast Sasak), Meno-

Mene (Central Sasak), Ngeno-Ngene (Central East Sasak, Central West Sasak), Mriak-Mriku (Central South Sasak). Complex dialect network. Some 'dialects' have difficult mutual intelligibility.

Related to Sumbawa [smw] and Bali [ban].

Classification Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayo-Sumbawan, North and

East, Bali-Sasak-Sumbawa, Sasak-Sumbawa

<u>Language</u> Bible portions: 1948.

development

Writing system Latin script.

Comments Subgroups: Waktu Lima, Waktu Telu. Most Waktu Telu own

farms; most Waktu Lima are landless, travel more, and have diverse occupations. Waktu Telu: agriculturalists. Muslim, Christian,

traditional religion (Waktu Telu).

[source: Lewis]

(e) conduct of prosecution adducing evidence concerning age of the accused In the matters of this submission, the prosecution did not have to deal with adducing evidence at trial concerning age of the accused crew. The AFP's policy is that crewmen assessed to be under 18 year old, at the time of the intercept, are deported. See **AFP** (2011). The prosecution presented its case against the crew who contest the alleged offences with which they were charged, i.e. an indictment under ss.232A / 233C <u>Migration Act</u>. Evidence adduced at trial from **documents** might happen to contain the **age and/or d.o.b.** of the accused crew. It is therefore relevant to consider how such documents may/may not be used or tendered as Exhibits.

Use of documents at court

In one matter, on *re-examination*, the prosecution showed a witness a document, namely the Republic of Indonesia Resident Identity Card (i.e. Kartu Tanda Penduduk, **KTP**) which bears the **d.o.b** of the accused crewman. The defence objected that the card did not arise on cross-examination and so could not be tendered as an Exhibit. The prosecution then simply had the document 'marked for identification'. Later in the trial, the prosecution cross-examining the accused crewman was able to use the card to discredit the crewman's evidence-in-chief. The card had not been adduced in evidence. but the accused crewman readily admitted in cross-examination that he showed the card to a witness aboard the SIEV. On the voir dire, the defence objected that the card did not arise in evidence-in-chief from the accused crewman and that the prosecution breaches the rules on cross-examination as to documents: [Rules 17, 18 Queen's case, ss.43, 44 Evidence Act]. The Judge rejected the defence application. The prosecution is able to cross-examine on material not in evidence, but is bound by whatever the crewman answered. If the crewman denied it, the prosecution would be unable to pursue questioning him further about the card. But as he admitted showing the KTP to a witness, the Judge ruled in favour of the prosecution. It is noted that the standard of

proof on the *voir dire* is the balance of probabilities. See Greenhill (2007).

Act offences, or though less likely, for earlier people-smuggling offences. Typically, his prior conviction's **Prosecution Report** [containing the **age/d.o.b.** of the crewman] will **not be admissible** in evidence. So in one matter, the accused crewman's *evidence-in-chief* is that he owed a debt to the owner of a perahu. His testimony is he crews that *perahu* which earlier was seized & forfeited for fishing illegally in Australian waters. The defence *objected* that the prosecution is cross-examining the crewman on the details of the Prosecution Report. On the *voir dire*, the prosecution successfully submitted it was confining cross-examination only to crewman's testimony. The basis of the questions being to rebut the defence raised by the accused crewman. The prosecution did not put his prior conviction's Prosecution Report to the accused crewman.

In another matter, on the *voir dire*, the defence wanted to adduce evidence of a prior conviction. To support an excuse from guilt under the <u>Criminal Code</u>, the defence wanted to *cross-examine* an AFP officer about the prior conviction for earlier people-smuggling of a 2<sup>nd</sup> Indonesian crewman on the same SIEV now as the accused crewman. That other crewman was not on trial, as he had already pleaded guilty in another court, been sentenced and jailed. The Judge rejected the defence application on the grounds of heresay. The details of the prior conviction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> crewman could not be introduced via this AFP officer. That other crewman was not in court to hear the evidence about him. Neither could the defence tender a **Prosecution Report** of the other crewman's prior conviction, even if it has obtained a copy of such. The Judge **opposed** it on the **grounds of relevance**.

It is interesting to note, as reported on 7 December 2011, the Federal government now holds DIAC, not the AFP, as responsible to assess the age of crewmen. It is also possible on the 'proverbial SIEV' that two or more crewmen could have their **recorded age** as less than 18 years old on the **Nominal Roll** and yet one or more might be charged by the AFP. There is no public database about the output of the tests conducted (by the AFP) to distinguish those crewman found to be over 18 years old at intercept when other crewmen are believed to be under 18 years old: [s.3ZQJ <u>Crimes Act</u> limits disclosure]. The AFP did however clarify its (then) age determination process on 6 January 2011. See **AFP** (2011). Accepting the AFP is correct to charge one or more such crewman but not the other claimed juveniles, age assessment may still get an unintentional airing.

Typically during a prosecution case of a people-smuggling offence, a DIAC officer will be called as a witness to testify along the lines that all PII on the SIEV had no valid visas to enter Australia (which goes to liability for an element of the offence) and that a number of the passengers had, since intercept, been granted protection visas whilst other passengers were rejected protection visas. A list of all PII will serve that purpose. In the officer's statement there may however be an unintended 'age estimate', if in the officer's statement there is information transposed from the **Nominal Roll**. A crewman's age younger than 18 years as recorded on the Nominal Roll – regardless whether 'by hook or by crook' it be fair or foul – *might* get transposed/transcribed into the **DIAC officer's statement tendered** in evidence.

**In summary**, age assessment information during the use of documents in cross-examination / re-examination does not typically arise, but it might arise.

# (f) the detention & remand of the accused

Crew of a SIEV are initially tried together, not given separate trials. **Table 7** sets out the *estimated* detention & remand periods in the matters which are the subject of this submission. It is *estimated* that the prosecution has taken, on average, 15 months to get these matters to trial.

Where the trial of a crewman results in a directed discharged which is no fault of the prosecution, or a hung jury with no verdict even after the trial Judge giving a 'Black Direction' to the jury-in-deliberations, the crewman will usually be remanded again for retrial.

As reported in the media, on 27 December 2011, "... the Commonwealth had not provided any extra resources to run 'people smuggling' trials (in the NSW District Court)....there are 31 such cases listed for early 2012, which will tie up three judges..." source: http://www.smh.com.au/national/people-smugglers-swamping-the-courts-20111226-1pajn.html

No doubt some of these "31 such cases" are retrials of matters contested without verdict in the later half of 2011. It is *estimated* that crew to be re-tried will be remanded, on average, for an extra five months. Therefore, it is *estimated* that such crew to be retried will have spent a total, on average, of 20 months in detention and on remand.

**Table 7: Detention and Remand Periods** 

| Example<br>Matter | Detained<br>awaiting<br>charge *<br>(months) | Remanded<br>awaiting<br>trial *<br>(months) | Time awaiting trial * (months) | Remanded<br>awaiting<br>retrial **<br>(months) | Total Time detained & on remand (months) |
|-------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| #1                | 8  | 6   | 14                             | 5  | 19                                       |
| #2                | 4  | 8   | 12                             | 5  | 17                                       |
| #3                | 9  | 11  | 20                             | 5  | 25                                       |
|                   |  | average =                                   | 15                             | 5  | 20                                       |

<sup>\*</sup> estimates based on intercept date of SIEV# (as per the indictment read-at-trial), the opening addresses to the jury and the Senate release APH (2/2011) Qu.25 AFP attachmt.

Delays in prosecution whilst being detained as a juvenile on people-smuggling matters was considered in *Supriadin v Minister for Immigration & Citizenship*. The applicants, all crew aged from 12 – 16 years had been detained mostly for periods of up to 12 months. A **criminal justice stay certificate about a non-citizen** was in force against most of them. A number of them were due to be deported. The trial Judge declined their applications for a Writ of Habeas Corpus. The Judge however noted that the one applicant *held for 15 months* had been detained *an extraordinarily long time* whilst a decision to prosecute was made. The Judge noted the CDPP/AG was not joined as a respondent and the Minister was not responsible for the decision to prosecute.

Prior to the current mandatory sentencing regime, in the case of *Kadem v The Queen*, the accused, his family and some 350 PII arrived at Ashmore on the perahu '*Harapan Satu*' on 1 November 1999. There was a delay of 15 months in charging him and a further delay of 8 months taking him to trial. On appeal against sentence, because of these delays, three Supreme Court Judges ruled [esp. para.53, 58] the trial Judge erred in sentencing. The appeal court reduced his gaol sentence by ½ (from 4 years to 3 years) and imposed a recognisance release order for good behaviour after 18 months.

<sup>\*\*</sup> estimated average wait to retrial deduced from the above media report when compared with initial trial dates.

Under the current regime, on another view of the crew in these matters potentially facing retrial, it could be contended that the *public interest* supports a 'no bill' by the CDPP in respect of one or more of the accused crew. See the **Response to the Term of Reference (i)**.

#### (g) guardians to protect the accused's interests,

including with

respect to age

assessment

#### **Litigation Guardians: protecting whose interests?**

In the case of *Supriadin v Minister for Immigration & Citizenship*, one single litigation guardian was appointed for the accused and another 14 Indonesian juvenile crewmen. The accused crewmen's applications for a Writ of Habeas Corpus were denied.

Contrast the case of *Applicant VFAY v Minister for Immigration*, where the applicant was an Afghani UASC upon arrival. The applicant's interests were found to *not require* a litigation guardian even though the applicant conducted his case by video-link from Port Headland detention centre using an Arabic interpreter and a *pro bono* solicitor who were both in a courtroom in Melbourne.

#### **Age Assessment = Credibility Evaluation?**

#### **DIAC** pilot

In October 2011, DIAC reported to the Senate Estimates hearing that it "undertook a pilot [program] in terms of age determination which involved a detailed interview technique, with two skilled DIAC officers interviewing people who had declared themselves as being under 18, but whom [DIAC] suspected might have been older. Following that pilot..., which was undertaken in July-August..., out of 60 people interviewed, about 33 were found to be over 18 years of age. [DIAC has] since extended that pilot to a larger group of people, and that process has taken place since August [2011]. Over the period from 5 August to 30 September, [DIAC] interviewed 121 unaccompanied minors, and 30 of those have been assessed as being adults". [ref. ACPL (2011), it noting that the pilot was applied only to asylum-seekers and was not used with 'people-smuggling' crew].

#### Judicial review in the UK asylum system

In the UK asylum system there is an established age assessment regime since 2004. **Kvittingen** (2010) however notes that across Europe, "faced with rising numbers of undocumented asylum seekers claiming to be minors, age assessment is increasingly conceived as an integral part of asylum determination...[and yet] age assessment is so politicised in the UK...[where] 'age-disputed persons' [have] become a ...political problem...[and] their age assessment remain contentious despite a number of policy amendments...[such that the case of A & M] reached the Supreme Court..."

Kvittingen (2010) cites a UK asylum system policy advisor's observation that: "[G]enerally when people are [age] disputed, ... it's a <u>lack of understanding about how to use credibility</u>. ... it's a lack of understanding about where they come from and what's happened to them, a lack of ability to analyse information, (where) often <u>huge</u> generalisations and sweeping statements [are] made in these assessments (ref. 15)."

In this Response to Term of Reference (g), my submission draws out the salient points on guarding a claimant's interests from the rulings by the UK's **High Court of Justice** (**Admin**) and **Court of Appeal** (**Civil**) presiding over age assessment disputes. As recently as June 2011, the court in  $R(Y) \lor LB$  Hillingdon opened its judgment with the observation that age assessment disputes seeking judicial review is the "new growth"

*industry*" [para.1]. Referring to numbers given in *R* (*FZ*) v *LB Croydon*, the judge noted that, as of **January 2011**, there were **64 age assessment cases in the Court's list**.

'Mertoncompliant' processes Back in the beginning (i.e. in 2003), in what has become known as 'Merton-compliant' age assessments, the UK asylum system received the judgement in R (B) v LB Merton, which held that "appearance, behaviour and the credibility of ... [the UASC's] account are all matters that reflect on each other" [para.28] and "if there is reason to doubt the applicant's statement about his age, the decision maker will have to make an assessment of his credibility, and he will have to ask questions designed to test his credibility" [para.37]

When assessment fails revert to the burden of proof The question of who has the **burden of proof** in age assessment is expressed most recently in December 2011 in *R* (*MWA*) *v SSHD* & *Birmingham CC*, which thought "the process is one of assessment and not in reality choosing between one of two alternatives, one of the other of which must represent the fact...it is comparing the likelihood of a wide range of dates and picking the one which the evidence suggests is the more likely than the rest to be accurate" [para.16] and "if the court is <u>unable to reach a decision after conducting the assessment exercise</u>, it would [after that] have to fall back on the burden of proof [and the balance of probabilities (para.17)] which would mean that it would be for the claimant to show that he is or was under 18 at the material time he asserts a duty was owed to him as a child" [para.18].

Procedural fairness

The case of R(CJ) v Cardiff CC found that the decision of the court is "not necessarily fixed by the positions of the competing parties, one of which must be chosen as correct; the fact finding role permits the Court to come to its own view which may differ from both parties" contentions, subject to procedural fairness" [para.81].

The case of SH v Secretary of State for Home Department stated that "assessment of age is <u>not an exact science</u>...[it] requires consideration of general background, family circumstances and history, and not solely appearance...and if there is reason to doubt the [individual's] statement as to age, his <u>credibility must be assessed</u>..." [para.18]

Similarly in the case of A & WK v LB Croydon, SSHD & Kent City Council the court noted "the <u>margin of error with standard medical assessments</u> is at least two years either [way]; and assessment is particularly difficult for the age range 15 to 20". [para.15-17]

The Experts versus
The Other
Experts

So in contrasting **paediatric expert evidence** against that of a social worker, the judgement in *MWA's case* [para.67] cited the judgement in *R (R) v LB Croydon*, which criticized the paediatrician's report as, "...an erroneous confidence in the accuracy and reliability of the statistical methods...employed. That misplaced confidence undermines the other evidence...It appears...that confidence leads...to relying primarily upon... statistical methods. Therefore [it] is very likely to be biased...assessment of age by reason of that misplaced confidence. Therefore it seems [one] must approach with ... great caution the conclusions...[it] reached...[and] do not believe [the paediatrician's] assessment of the age of the Claimant is any more reliable than that of a social worker. Indeed, [the] assessment, ..., is likely to be less reliable because [it] places such considerable confidence in ... statistical methods that ... [it is], ... not scientifically established and unreliable..." [para.52].

In the 2007 case of R (A) v Liverpool CC, an expert dental surgeon's dental age

**odontological (OPG) report** clashed against a consultant paediatrician's "holistic" age assessment.\* Without making definitive criticisms of either expert, the court's judgment makes clear that "experts must limit themselves to their area of expertise" and whilst "either may express a view as to dental age...only a person with wider expertise can offer a view on non-dental factors in reaching a conclusion as to age", although "[all] experts should confine themselves to setting out opinions [only in their particular field]", and "commentary as to the independence of an opposing expert ...[or comment that] indicates a lack of professional detachment...is not an appropriate matter to be included in a report" as "the purpose of an expert's report is not to fan the flames of the dispute [but] rather to identify particular questions of expertise and to explain in a fair and impartial way the information that is available on those questions..." [para.46].

\* [Kvittingen (2010), pg.17-18 notes that whilst use of paediatric age assessment is in decline in the UK, general paediatric age assessment is used in parts of Germany; with various odontological age assessments employed in Norway, Sweden and Denmark; X-ray of the wrist is used in France, Belgium, Lithuania and Finland; psychosocial assessment is used in Germany; and 'inspection interview' is performed in Austria].

Child-protection risks

The case of *TL*, *Re Applic. for Judicial Review of an Age Assessment* noted that the asylum-seeker, having been assessed as over 18 years old, **only claimed to be a child when he was charged with a criminal offence**. The court posed the question, "was this the reason he now wanted to be treated as a child?" [para.24], adding that "while it is important to try and ensure that children are not treated as adults it is also important to try and ensure that adults are not treated as children" [para.43], recommending that procedures should "ensure children and adults are not accommodated together" as "adults inappropriately accommodated with children" is "a serious abuse" [para.44].

This latter point is perhaps something that should come out during this Inquiry: that is, **Indonesian crew claiming juvenile status should not be housed with adults, nor should they be housed with children whilst their claim is assessed**. Secondly, Kvittingen (2010) cited A & M's case on appeal as having reached the UK's Supreme Court. According to Kvittingen (2010) pg.25, the question for the courts, as perhaps too for this Inquiry, is: **Can social workers make impartial age determinations?** The Court found that "the better the quality of the initial decision-making, the less likely it is that the court will come to any different decision upon the evidence" [para.33].

**Advocacy** 

In the light of A & M's case, Davies (2010) sets out recommendations for age assessment, in the UK asylum context, to include: use of an interpreter in the correct dialect as the claimant; provision for an independent observer; copies of all documents for both sides; regular breaks / welfare checks on the claimant; and where there are inconsistencies in the claimant's account, these contradictions must be put to the claimant in the age assessment interview. Davies (2010) emphasises that many claimants are vague about definite time-scales (as to their d.o.b., schooling, leaving home, and journeys undertaken) but that details must be asked for and there is a duty to inquire. Also see UKBA (2011) for guidelines in "special cases of disputed age assessment".

In the context of accused Indonesian crew, as a minimum feature, the **provision of an independent observer**, as noted by Davies (2010), should act as a guardian of their interests.

#### (h) legal advice to the accused, including with respect to age assessment

Legal advice to the disputed 'juvenile' crewman would likely explain, in as plain language as possible, the '*prescribed procedure*' including '*X-ray of a part of a person's body*' that may be used to determine a person's age *for administrative purposes* in criminal law, and the consents [especially ss.3ZQC, 3ZQI <u>Crimes Act (Cth)</u>] as described in ss.3ZQA – 3ZQK Crimes Act (Cth).

The procedure however is not prescribed when age is to be proved in court: see *Applicant VFAY's case*. *Applicant VFAY's case* was cited in *Osman's case* which noted that expert evidence of *bone age need not conclusively prove chronological age* [para.40]. *Applicant VFAY's case* was also cited in *MRT Case No.V0504672* which noted the 'standard deviation of the mean bone age' assessment is weighed up against the Tribunal's view that the applicant was a credible witness.

### Standard of proof

AJ v The Queen contains an appellate court discussion of the **standard of proof** as to an age assessment which is *in dispute*. The court doubted the appellant's proposition that the Crown bore the burden of proof as to age. The proof of whether the crewman is under 18 years was on the **balance of probabilities**. The trial judge correctly identified the issue as being whether the crewman was under the age of 18 years at the time of the intercept. The judge found the crewman was, at the relevant time, of or over the age of 18. A corollary of which is that the crewman was not aged under 18 years. The judge rejected any merit in this case that a circumstance likely to result in a more severe punishment must be proved beyond reasonable doubt [para.11-13].

More generally, advice to crew facing people-smuggling charges may include:

#### Right to silence

- 1. Right to silence, i.e. decline to give a Record of Interview 'under caution' to AFP;
- 2. Waiver of the right to a committal hearing; and
- 3. Maintain the right to silence at trial, i.e. decline to testify in one's own case.

#### **Anunga Rules**

It is noted that police-questioning of indigenous Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (ATSI) is subject to the **Anunga Rules**. See **Bartels** (**2011**). Similarly, in the case of *R v Hatim* & *Ors*, the trial Judge found that the Anunga Rules applied to questioning the accused Indonesian crewman [at para.17]. The crewman was entitled to contact a friend / Indonesian consulate official / lawyer [at para.10].

Crewmen that plead guilty may well give a ROI. In one matter, on the *voir dire*, the defence submitted that a crewman who pleaded guilty had given a false ROI to the AFP. That crewman was not in court, having been sentenced and jailed. The prosecution did not seek to tender his ROI. In respect however of the crewmen who contested the charges, only in one matter mentioned in this submission did the prosecution adduce evidence of an AFP ROI. When the AFP officer was giving testimony, the court heard replayed the **ERISP** (**Electronically Recorded Interview of a Suspected Person**) of the accused crewman. In all other matters mentioned in this submission, no evidence of an AFP ROI with the accused crewmen was adduced. One might therefore *assume* that these accused crewmen, **under legal advice**, **declined to give a ROI under caution** to the AFP.

As opposed to the right of silence pre-trial, the **right to silence at trial** has been the subject of judicial comment, known as the **Weissensteiner Direction.** That is, "not every case calls for explanation or contradiction in the form of evidence from the

accused. There may be no facts peculiarly within the accused's knowledge": Weissensteiner v R [para.20]. Albeit, that case was one of circumstantial evidence, unlike people-smuggling cases which seek to draw inferences from direct evidence. See Anderson (2002) for discussion of 'the right to silence' cases: R v Ryan, RPS v R and, Azzopardi v R. Also see O'Donnell (2000) and Hocking & Manville (2001).

In the matters mentioned in this submission, 1-in-3 of the accused who contested the charges, *presumably* under legal advice of their barrister at trial, did not enter the witness-box to give evidence in their own case.

**In summary**, it *appears* that accused crewmen who intend to contest the charge of people smuggling decline to give ROI under caution to the AFP; and in some cases decline to give testimony-at-trial. Both elections coming after having received legal advice to that effect.

#### (i) any other matter incidental to the above terms of reference

#### No Billing, Restoring Judicial Discretion, and Maritime Governance

The judiciary has spoken out against the mandatory 5 year sentence for people smuggling offences. The minimum gaol time, if convicted, is 36 months non-parole. Any crew re-tried in the matters that are the subject of this submission, it is *estimated* will spend, on average, an additional 16 months incarcerated. They will, in all likelihood thereafter be deported back to Indonesia. If acquitted at re-trial, they however will have spent, on average, about half of the total non-parole time awaiting trial/retrial.

#### nolle prosequi

The NT Supreme Court Justices have long voiced their opinions in similar cases: no more than 18 months is the appropriate sentence if 'general sentencing guidelines' were to apply to the crew. Sentencing in people-smuggling cases, citing the authorities, is recently discussed in *R v Ambo*. It is contended that crew that have done 18+ months on remand should be deported rather than be retried. The CDPP has the discretion to not proceed further against any accused facing an indictment, even one that has already been presented. This discretion is the 'nolle prosequi' or 'no billing' of the case. It is submitted that as the 'injustice of mandatory sentencing' gets into 'public interest consciousness' it might become increasing difficult for the prosecution to achieve guilty verdicts from juries. Not to mention the cost to the taxpayer for retrials upon trials.

#### 'Hopeless' cases

It is instructive that a former director of prosecutions told a Bar Reader's Course that he was "not interested in clogging up our Rolls Royce system of criminal justice with hopeless cases. The community cannot afford it...and if you can <u>satisfy the tests</u> (described below) on a rational basis,... <u>the proceedings will be terminated</u>. The decision...turns on three principal questions:

- 1. Is the evidence available capable of establishing each element of the offence?
- 2. Can it be said that there is no reasonable prospect of conviction by a reasonable jury properly instructed as to the law?, or
- 3. Are there nevertheless discretionary factors that require the matter not to proceed in the public interest? The <u>public interest is paramount</u>".

In the matters the subject of this submission, where the accused crew face retrial, it is submitted that all three 'tests' could be answered in the affirmative and that the *public interest* supports a 'no bill' in respect of one or more of the remanded crew. Especially

with the younger crewmen, whose appearance and demeanour in court looked to be that of youths or those barely of adult age?

#### Raising the bar

I note that the CDPP announced a change of policy on 2 December 2011: it will no longer prosecute a crewman who was not at least 19 years old (at the time of the intercept). Perhaps that 'bar' should be raised to an age of 20 years or even 21 years. An age of 20 years would accommodate the statistical deviations of bone- and dentalage in age assessment determinations. An age of 21 years would in part offset the seemingly 'ethnic discrimination' being practised in prosecutions against young Indonesians (who are mere fishermen). Other than a very small number of non-Indonesians, no nationals than Indonesian (fishermen and simple men) are prosecuted under the Migration Act offence of 'aggravated people smuggling'.

Recall the words of the court in *U.S. v Carrion* 488 F.2d 12, 14 1<sup>st</sup> Cir 1973,

### Kafkaesque rituals?

"no defendant should face the Kafkaesque spectre of an incomprehensible ritual which may terminate in punishment"

This Inquiry is 10 years in the making. The Inquiry could either within **this Term of Reference** (i) or in a **widening of its Terms of Reference** examine the 'elephant in the room', that is, the 5 years jail (with 3 years non-parole) **mandatory sentencing** of Indonesian crew convicted of aggravated people-smuggling offences. Kaptans who jump-off at Roti know about it. Juveniles are left to hold the tangkai kemudi ('tiller') for that final leg to Ashmore.

#### Advocacy

**Restore judicial discretion in sentencing**: then convicted crew will go home after the remand period and the juveniles may be less likely involved in the first place.

Redirect some of the \$00's million spent remunerating the 'border protection industry' to improving the lot in life of these impoverished small-boat fishermen and their families in Nusa Tenggara Timur province. Australia could work more closely with Indonesia to manage fisheries in the northern waters of the Arafura, Banda and Timor seas. See Stacey (2001) & (2007).

Replace the 28 Commonwealth government agencies (listed in GAMSA, see ACS/BPC (2009) pg.15-19], as cited by Woolner (2011), that manage our maritime domain with a 'Coast Guard'. Woolner (2011) is an excellent discussion on how to improve the governance of Australia's maritime domain.

Woolner (2011) notes [at pg.55] that "control of irregular immigration is only one of the many problems...across the vast spread of Australia's maritime domain". He identifies [at 56] the "crisis driven incrementalism", [at 60] "the rise of a self-perpetuating entity allocated growing funding", all the while [at 72] "no one ...owns the problem [of policing the maritime domain] as a whole...thus loss of focus is often...a structurally pre-determined outcome of the whole-of-government approach". Furthermore, adding [at 74] the "loss of focus and reduced incentive to review policy outcomes are important weaknesses of the whole-of-government approach [and] without a [single] Minister responsible for implementation, whole-of-government also may lack the endurance to achieve [objectives]...". To conclude, he recommends [at 79-80] establishment of a singularly responsible Coast Guard, headed by a serving member of the ADF.

#### **APPENDIX A:**

**Case Law** 

## Age Determination – Australian case law

AJ v The Queen [2011] WASCA 166 [re standard of proof where disputed age] Stoykovski v "M" [a Child] [2002] WASCA 193 [re secondary d.o.b. evidence] R v Hatim & Ors [2000] NTSC 54 [re x-ray evidence for skeletal age estimation] Applicant VFAY v Minister for Immigration [2003] FMCA 289 [re x-ray evidence] Osman v Minister for Immigration & Anor [2007] FMCA 1437 [re x-ray evidence] MRT Case Number V0504672 [2007] MRTA 385 (13 August 2007) [re x-ray evidence]

## Age Determination – UK case law

A & WK v LB Croydon, SSHD & Kent City Council [2009] EWHC 939 (Admin)

AS v London Borough of Croydon [2011] EWHC 2091 (Admin)

R (A) v LB Croydon [2008] EWHC 2921 (Admin)

R (C) v LB Enfield [2004] EWHC 2297 (Admin)

R(CJ) v Cardiff CC [2011] EWHC 23 (Admin)

R (A) v Liverpool CC [2007] EWHC 1477 (Admin)

R (A & M) v LB Croydon & LB Lambeth [2009] UKSC 8

R (B) v LB Merton [2003] EWHC 1689 (Admin) [re 'Merton-compliant' assessment]

R (FZ) v LB Croydon [2011] EWHC Civ 59

*R (I & O) v SSHD* [2005] EWHC 1025 (Admin)

*R (KN) v LB Barnett* [2011] EWHC 2091 (Admin)

R (MWA) v SSHD & Birmingham CC [2011] EWHC 3488 (Admin)

R (P) v LB Croydon [2009] EWHC 1993 (Admin)

R (R) v LB Croydon [2011] EWHC 1473 (Admin)

R (Y) v LB Hillingdon [2011] EWHC 1477 (Admin)

SH v Secretary of State for Home Department [2011] EWCA Civ 1284

TL, Re Applic. for Judicial Review of an Age Assessment [2011] ScotCS CSOH\_98

### Juvenile Crew in people smuggling cases

Curtis v Sidik & Najar [1999] NTSC 135

R v Hatim & Ors [2000] NTSC 53

R v Sarip Abakar & Ors [2001] NTSC, 3 October (sentence)

R v Mohamed Tahir & Beny [2009] NTSC, 28 October (sentence)

The Queen v Ako Lani, Ose Lani & John Ndollu (Qld DC, June 2011)

AJ v The Queen [2011] WASCA 166

Stoykovski v "M" [a Child] [2002] WASCA 193 [re age determination]

### Delays in prosecuting people smuggling cases

Supriadin [& 14 Ors] v Minister for Immigration & Citizenship [2011] NTSC 45 Kadem v The Queen [2002] WASCA 133

## Sentencing in people smuggling cases

R v Ambo [2011] NSWDC 182

R v Pot & Ors [2011] NTSC, 18 January (sentence)

R v Dokeng [2010] NTSC, 2 December (sentence)

R v Nafi [2011] NTSC, 19 May (sentence)

R v Mohamed Tahir & Beny [2009] NTSC, 28 October (sentence)

### Standard and burden of proof in people smuggling cases

AJ v The Queen [2011] WASCA 166

Bahar v The Queen [2011] WASCA 2 [rejects the defence of reasonable mistake]

## Requisite mental element of s232A Migration Act

The Queen v Hungan [2000] NTSC 84

### **Boarding Intercept – Detention Notice – ROI**

R v Sukarni & Ors [2000] NTSC 13

### Bringing or coming to Australia

Rutu and Ladjilu v Dalla Costa (1997) 93 A Crim R 425

### Anunga Rules – record of interview – age of accused in question

R v Hatim & Ors [2000] NTSC 54

R v Anunga (1976) 11 ALR 412

## S232A Migration Act requires SIEV's entry to Australia's territorial sea

R v Ahmad [2011] NTSC 71

## Rule against splitting the Crown case - Cross-examination by prosecution to elicit evidence that could have been tendered in chief - When permissible

The Queen v Chin [1985] HCA 35

## Confessions and admissions - Discretion to exclude on the voir dire

R v Swaffield; Pavic v The Queen [1998] HCA 1; 192 CLR 159; 151 ALR 98; 72 ALJR 339 (20 January 1998)

## Witness out of State & unable to give evidence by either video link of audio link discretion to admit statement – prejudicial effect vs. probative value

Chaudhry v The Queen [2007] WASCA 37

## Identification evidence - Photo boards - discretion to exclude on the voir dire

R v Al Jenabi [2004] NTSC 44

## 'Basha' cross-examination in criminal trials

R v Basha 39 A.Crim. R.337 at 339

R v Sanford (1994) 33 NSWLR 172 at 181

#### Voluntariness – Unfairness to admit confession and admissions

Foster v R [1993] HCA 80

## Prosecution disclosure of a witness receiving favourable treatment to testify

Grev v R [2001] HCA 65, (2001) 75 ALJR 1708

### The Rule in Browne v Dunn – Breaches by prosecution

*R v Arnott* [2009] VSCA 299 (17 December 2009)

Khamis v Regina [2010] NSWCCA 179 at para.45

MWJ v The Queen [2005] HCA 74

### Duty to disclose material relevant to case overrides public interest immunity

Regina v Lipton [2011] NSWCCA 247; contra s.15A(6) Director of Public Prosecutions Act

## Costs in Criminal Cases (Act) does not apply in Commonwealth prosecutions

Solomons v District Court of New South Wales [2002] HCA 47; 192 ALR 217 (10 Oct.)

## Co-conspirators Rule - Circumstantial evidence

Fonseka v The Queen [2003] WASCA 111

## Defences of Duress, Necessity, Sudden/Extraordinary Emergency

*R v Mahendra* [2011] NTSC 57 (29 July 2011)

Kia v The Queen [2011] WASCA 104

Oblach v R [2005] NSWCCA 440

The Queen v Bryan Joseph Law & Ors [2007] NTSC 45

Tran v The Commonwealth [2010] FCAFC 80

Tran v The Commonwealth [2008] FCA 901

Nguyen v The Queen [2005] WASCA 22

Johnson v The State of Western Australia [2009] WASCA 71 at 60, 84, 123, 127, 129

Perka v The Queen [1984] 2 SCR 232

R v Rogers (1996) 86 A Crim R 542 at 545-546

Ahmadi v The Queen [2011] WASCA 237

Taiapa v The Queen (2009) 240 CLR 95

### Judicially directed acquittal at trial ('Doney Direction')

Doney v R [1990] HCA 51, (1990) 171 CLR 207

### Judicial 'Invitation' to Jury to Acquit ('Prasad Direction')

R v Prasad (1979) 23 SASR 161; 2 A Crim R 45.

## Judicial 'comment' when accused does not give information peculiar to his knowledge ('Weissensteiner Direction')

Weissensteiner v R (1993) 178 CLR 217; [1993] HCA 65 [para.20]

R v Ryan [2002] QCA 92 (22 March 2002)

*RPS v R* [2000] HCA 3 (3 February 2000)

*Azzopardi v R* [2001] HCA 25 (3 May 2001)

### Perseverance (exhortation) to Jury during deliberations ('Black Direction')

Black v R [1993] HCA 71, (1993) 179 CLR 44;

*R v Rajakaruna* [2004] VSCA 114;

## Judicial Direction when conflict between the evidence of a prosecution witness and the evidence of a defence witness ('Liberato Direction')

Liberato v The Queen (1985) 159 CLR 507 at 515

Kia v The Queen [2011] WASCA 104 at 26-34

#### Elements of the Offence is an essential Roadmap for a jury

R v Elomar & Ors [No 1] [2008] NSWSC 1442

### What is the relevant standard of interpretation?

Perera v Minister for Immigration & Multicultural Affairs [1999] FCA 507

## Court to decide whether interpreter is qualified – Court to question interpreter

The Queen v Wurramara [2011] NTSC 89

#### The standard of compliant interpreting (applies Canadian & Australian law)

Chala Sani ABDULA v The Queen [2011] NZSC 130 (1 November 2011)

Chala Sani ABDULA v The Queen [2011] NZSC Transcript 9 SC 80/2010

| Whether standard of interpretation competent & sufficient for fair trial?  De La Espriella-Velasco v The Queen [2006] WASCA 31  |
|---|
| Right to come to Australia (s 232A (repealed), 233C Migration Act)  R v Mahendra [2011] NTSC 57 (29 July 2011) at [12]-[14]  Deterring People Smuggling Act 2011 (November)   |
| Right of asylum – a right of States not individuals  NAGV and NAGW of 2002 v Minister for Immigration & Multi-Cultural and Indigenous  Affairs (2005) 222 CLR 161  Min. For Immigration v Ibrahim (2000) 204 CLR 1  T v Home Secretary [1996] AC 742  Sale v Haitian Centers Council (1993) 509 US 155, 188-9  Applicant A v Min. For Immigration & Ethnic Affairs (1996-97) 190 CLR 225  Nguyen Tuang Cuong v Dir. Immigration [1997] 1 WLR 68 per dissenting judgmt @[69] |
| Right to come – Fault element <i>Recklessness</i> – Knowledge not required <i>R v Husen Baco &amp; Ors</i> [2011] NTSC 75   |
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### **APPENDIX B:**

#### Age Assessment

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## **APPENDIX C:**

## Glossary of Selected Terms

Source:

IOM Vienna (2006)

**Asylum seekers**: Persons seeking to be admitted into a country as refugees and awaiting decision on their application for refugee status under relevant international and national instruments.

**Child**: A child is an individual below the age of 18 years (definition of Article 3d of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime).

**Closed alternative question**: This type of question invites one answer out of a given choice, e.g.: "What colour was the car, silver, grey or another colour?"

**Closed specific question**: This type of question usually invites a single, specific answer, e.g.: Qu. "At what time of day did this happen?"; Ans. "In the morning".

**Dentin**: One of the two mineralized structures of the teeth. It consists of active cells or odontoblasts that are captured within a calcified matrix of hydroxyapatite and collagen.

**Disruptive investigation**: This option is used in cases where the level of risk to the victim of trafficking demands an immediate response and/or where the proactive investigation is either not an option or precluded by national legislation. However, it must be mentioned that the disruptive investigative option is not a long term solution and may only displace or drive the problem to another location or "underground".

**Emotional debonding**: Loss of attachment to an emotional connection with another person.

**Enamel**: One of the two mineralized structures teeth consist of. It constitutes the outer clinical part of the tooth as seen in the mouth. It is virtually dead material consisting of hydroxyapatite crystals covering and protecting the tooth crown.

**Evidential interview**: The child is interviewed with the purpose of gathering evidences for use in legal proceedings, immigration matters, child protection issues and/or the prosecution of offenders. The evidential interview aims to obtain a truthful and accurate account of what the child has been victim of or witness to. It consists of four following phases: (1) Introduction/Rapport: introduction of each person and of the engagement of the conversation with the child; (2) Free narrative; (3) Clarification/Questioning; (4) Closing: recapitulation of the story in exactly the same order of events as the child has recounted it; comments and questions from the child.

**Flagging**: Labelling the intelligence into categories that can be easily apprehended and retrieved by electronic means. The word "flag" relates to a computerized marker that is electronically attached to pieces of data so that they can be filed and retrieved from within the specifications imposed by the flag. On a paper system, the "flag" is simply the marker made against the written entry that shows what the intelligence relates to in the system.

Good practice: The term good practice is used to describe a practice in the field of combating child trafficking that has proved to be efficient in one country or more and to indicate that this system might be applicable and adaptable in a different setting. A model of good practice can also be derived from a model of bad practice. No model can be entirely duplicated due to different national settings. Each model of good practice also has disadvantages and might not work in a different setting, but it is still valuable as an effective method in the respective country.

**Hand wrist radiograph**: X-ray (radiography) of bones of hand/wrist. It is an instrument in order to reveal indications of skeletal age.

**Identification**: There are two different types of identifications: the identification of the child or determination of the identity of a child (searching for information that would be contained in birth certificate, or identity documents/passport: name, nationality, date and place of birth); and the identification of the child as a potential or actual victim of trafficking (important in order to assistant in providing protective measures for the child and in the investigation and prosecution of traffickers).

**Intelligence-led investigations**: Police-led investigation, arrest and successful prosecution of traffickers without relying on the cooperation and testimony of the victim. In other words, it is a combination of intelligence-gathering, human and technical surveillance, the work of undercover agents and standard investigative techniques to identify the traffickers and instigate proceedings against them.

**Investigation:** Process of collecting data, information and declarations made by a probation officer in preparing allegations against the defendant.

**Investigative methods**: The main investigative methods are the following: proactive / intelligence-led investigation, reactive / victim-led investigation, disruptive investigation.

**Joint investigation teams**: Competent authorities of two or more states setting up a team for a specific purpose and a limited period, to carry out criminal investigations in one or more of the states setting up the team. (European Union Council Framework Decision of 20 June 2002 on Joint Investigation Teams)

**Leading Questions**: Questions misleading the person and planting false memory. It is imperative that the interviewer avoids using leading questions. Ex: Was the car grey?

**Minor:** A minor is to be considered as a child, meaning every person below the age of 18 years.

**Monitoring room**: Side-room where the video-recorded interview can be watched (e.g. behind a mirror).

**Open questions**: Questions beginning with words such as "Tell me", "Explain to me", "Describe to me", with the purpose of enabling the child to recount as much detail as possible.

**Orthopantomogram** (**OPG**): Radiological panoramic overview of the dentition. It reveals the teeth that are completely formed and calcified and those that are still in the process of being formed.

**Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PSTD)**: The condition that occurs when a victim lives through an experience or series of experiences so extreme that he/she is unable to comprehend its nature or accept that this has happened to him/her. The symptoms can be various: intrusive images, visual or sensory hallucinations, vivid flashbacks and memory impairment. The victims may be unable to produce a description of what happened to them.

**Proactive investigations**: See Intelligence-led Investigations.

**Prosecution**: The institution and conduct of legal proceedings against a defendant for criminal behaviour.

**Reactive investigations or victim-led investigation**: The investigative teams rely on the cooperation and testimony of the victim to find available additional corroborative material to be used as evidence in judicial proceedings.

**Risk assessment**: Risk assessment is an operational risk evaluation in relation to existing and potential child victims of trafficking. Risk assessment is a continuing process during the preparatory phase of an investigation and intelligence gathering, the pre-arrest and post-arrest phase of a criminal investigation as well as in the pre-trial and post-trial phase. The operational risk assessment also focuses on the ideal investigative and multi-agency team and the joint action of police services and public service providers.

**Rogatory Letter**: Procedural act by which a court calls upon another court for a civil process or investigation which it cannot undertake.

**Shelter**: Accommodation in a safe environment.

**Smuggling**: The procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the entry of a person into a State of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident (definition from the UN Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime, entered into force on 28 January 2004).

**Sternal epiphyseal**: The radiological assessment of the degree of ossification of the sternal epiphyseal cartilage of the clavicle is a diagnostic instrument in forensic age diagnosis of young adults, which reveals the stages of ossification.

**Testimony**: Oral evidence provided at a trial through an oral deposition.

**Threat assessment (strategic analysis)**: This analysis contains activities and methods of collecting, processing and analysing data on potential exploitation situations of children. It collects and uses statistical data as well as qualitative data on the selected cases.

**Trafficking**: "Trafficking in persons shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation", Art.3(a) UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.

**Trauma**: Trafficked children can be affected by two kinds of traumas: Trauma type I involves a single traumatic event, while trauma type II consists of multiple, chronic experiences. Traumatic events such as physical abuse, sexual exploitation, and psychological humiliation can cause the following consequences: narrowing of attention, dissociation, repression and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PSTD).

**Unaccompanied Minors**: "The nationals of third countries who are under 18 years old who enter the territory of Member States and are not accompanied by an adult who is responsible for them, by law or by custom, and as long as they are not effectively cared for by such a person. The present resolution could also be applied to minors who are nationals of third countries and who have been left alone after entering the territory of the Member States". (Article 1 (1) of the Council Resolution of 26 June 1997 on unaccompanied minors (UAMs) who are nationals of third countries defines UAMs).

**Victim-led Investigation**: See reactive investigations.

| Voluntary Return: Th     | ie assisted or inc | dependent i | return to th | ne country of | origin, | transit |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| or another third country | y based on the f   | ree will of | the returne  | ee.           |         |         |