OPEN BORDERS
EVEN FOR MICHAEL HOWARD?

Tory attacks on refugees smacks of the old race card trick - Labour party silence and compliance with attacks on 'bogus' asylum seekers, and desire for a more efficient process (read quicker rejection) of asylum decisions are just a pale imitation of this. Amidst all this doom and gloom CONTRAFLow
spoke to a comrade from the Holloway Centre in Stoke Newington...

The Home Office has announced some changes to the asylum system. The shocking figures were announced by Home Secretary Michael Howard last week - what were they?

Very little. In fact there's the slippage that those policies have been overturned. Instead of any commitment to a policy that would give an honest, direct and straightforward route to a decision on someone's asylum claims, the Home Office is going to delay the process even more. It's still not clear what will happen if someone is rejected - the Home Office hasn't said if they will be accepted even on the basis that they're not dangerous. The whole process is still shrouded in secrecy.

The Home Office has also announced a new system for appeals. But this is just another delay tactic. Appeals will now take 15 months, up from 12. It's another attempt to delay the process, and another way of trying to intimidate people who see the appeals system as the only hope of getting a fair hearing.

So what's the problem? It's not clear what the Home Office is doing. They seem to be randomising the process, and there's no information available to the public. It's clear that the Home Office is not interested in providing a fair and transparent system for asylum seekers. They're more interested in delaying the process and keeping it out of the public eye.

But what are the implications of these changes? Will people who are rejected be able to appeal against the decision? Will they be given a fair hearing? These are the questions that need to be answered.

The Home Office should be transparent about the changes they are making. They should be accountable to the public, and the process should be transparent. It's clear that the Home Office has no interest in providing a fair and transparent system for asylum seekers. They're more interested in delaying the process and keeping it out of the public eye.
A CYNICAL WRITES

The future will not consist of anything that is already here. It will be a place characterized by uncertainty, ambiguity and contradiction. We will not know where we are going or what will happen next. The world will be in a constant state of flux, with no clear direction or purpose. We will be subjected to constant change and uncertainty, and we will have to be adaptable and resilient. The future will be a place of constant revision, and we will be forced to re-evaluate our assumptions and beliefs. The future will be a place of uncertainty, and we will have to learn to live with it.
MORE STRIKES
At Wolverhampton, the local branch of the City of Wolverhampton Council is due to hold a one-day strike by janitors at the Wolverhampton Civic Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, May 20. The strike is for a 45p-an-hour increase and for three per cent for the January pay rise. The branch has also been given notice of a one-day strike at the Civic Hall on June 17.

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