



ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR HEALTH

**THE HON KEN WYATT AM, MP
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR HEALTH
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR HASLUCK**

15 October 2015

MEDIA STATEMENT

While appearing on the ABC's *QandA* program on Monday night I stated that some 2000 children were in detention on Labor's watch in the lead up to the 2013 election.

I also remarked that under the Coalition Government that figure was down to 104.

I stand by both comments, however I would like to clarify that these figures are not specific to Nauru and are relevant to only onshore detention centres and Christmas Island.

Labor's track record when it comes to boat arrivals speaks for itself. I make no apologies for reminding Senator Lisa Singh and the Member for Melbourne, Mr Adam Bandt MP, of the part their respective Parties played in allowing the evil trade of people smuggling to reach Australia in such large proportions.

The Coalition will continue to implement policies that take away the temptation for people smugglers. We cannot allow the deaths at sea to recommence.

FACTS

- The peak number of children in detention was 1992 in July 2013 – *as provided by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.*
- Under the Coalition Government, we have that figure down to less than 104 – *as detailed on the Department of Immigration and Border Protection website via <http://www.border.gov.au/about/reports-publications/research-statistics/statistics/live-in-australia/immigration-detention>*

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