



## Grandparents pro Asylum demand: **Humanity**

They come from war – persecution – ill-treatment – torture.

### **They can wait for years**

without any right to education, nor to work, and without hope.

**The great majority get rejected, because they are perceived as unconvincing.**

More than **150 persons** have spent **over 8 years** in Danish refugee centres.

**They should be granted amnesty NOW!**

### **Innocent children**

are suffering childhood with their traumatised parents in refugee camps, deprived of the opportunity for development.

Far too many **refugee children contract lifelong psychiatric disorders.**

We know this is going on – we have heard them recount their experiences – we have wept with them – Sometimes we've managed to get speedier processing for their applications, which are often improperly and unreasonably delayed.

### **This is why we are standing here in protest!**

We are currently campaigning for the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child to be incorporated into Danish law.

Follow us on Facebook – and on [www.bedsteforaeldreforasyl.dk](http://www.bedsteforaeldreforasyl.dk)

Turn to the next page to hear about some of their experiences...



**Grandparents pro Asylum demand :**

## **An End to Cynicism**

**Refugee legislation is administered inflexibly – with an iron hand that is not at all endorsed by Denmark’s people.**

Families get split up, and well assimilated children receive compulsory deportation orders – only to be reprieved, in a few lucky instances, after determined lobbying by good-hearted friends and classmates. The recent cases of Im from Åbybro, Armen from Havdrup and Songül from Køge demonstrate this with revealing clarity.

### **Mother of two small children threatened with forcible deportation.**

Two children aged three and five years are currently under threat of being separated from their mother. Ten years have gone by since their parents came to Denmark, and the children and their father were issued with residence permits. Their mother has applied in turn for family reunification, asylum, and residence on humanitarian grounds, only to be refused in each case, even though the reports of medical examiners show that she has now become seriously ill, not least as a result of languishing for many years of uncertainty in refugee camps.

Every morning, the family lives with the dread that this will be the day when the police are suddenly at the door to deport her to a country where she has no social network – and when the children will definitively lose their mother. Throughout all this time, their father has provided for the family financially, without any recourse to public assistance, but this has carried no weight with the authorities.

**Inhuman – and prohibited by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child!**

### **But taking action does help!**

In 1999 a mother from Iraq fled to Denmark with her five children, whose father had been gunned down in his shop during a political showdown.

They were fortunate to have relatives already in Denmark who were able to support them.

We will spare you details of her saga; but she and the children waited and waited and waited...

For some months they took refuge in Brorson’s Church. It is hardly surprising that this previously strong woman eventually suffered a psychiatric breakdown after her many years of uncertainty and hopelessness in refugee camps.

*Bedsteforældre for Asyl* has supported this family since their sanctuary in Brorson’s Church, and this eventually produced results. One by one, the members of the family were granted asylum and residence permits, and the children got permanent jobs, a hair-dressing saloon, and higher education. Her grandchildren are thriving, in school and outside it. However, the 14 years and 4 months’ waiting time **scarred her soul.**