CANBERRA CONVERSATION PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

DATE: WEDNESDAY 13, MAY 2015
TIME: 12.30PM- 1.30PM
VENUE: FUNCTION ROOM,
THEO NOTARAS MULTICULTURAL CENTRE,
NORTH BUILDING, 180 LONDON CIRCUIT, CANBERRA CITY.

This event is free to attend. Please visit Eventbrite to confirm your registration.

3 SIDES TO EVERY STORY:
AUSTRALIA’S ASYLUM SEEKER POLICY

ABOUT: This Canberra Conversation session will explore Australia’s asylum seeker policy through the eyes of three speakers from diverse backgrounds - Miss Sama Khan, a final year Law and Arts student at the ANU, majoring in International Relations and Middle Eastern studies and a second generation Australian Muslim, Dr John Minns, Associate Professor in Politics and International Relations at the ANU and who has published on refugee issues and been involved in refugee politics since 2000 and Mr Jeeven Nadanakumar a student studying Law/Economics at the ANU and an active member of Canberra’s Tamil community. Jeevan also advises the ACT Government on multicultural affairs as a member of the One Canberra Reference Group.

Each speaker will make a brief presentation before opening up the conversation to the audience. The event will be facilitated by Professorial Fellow Jon Stanhope AO.

SPEAKERS

John Minns is an Associate Professor in Politics and International Relations at the ANU and the Director of the Australian National Centre for Latin American Studies. John is a former University Medalist, a Fulbright Scholar and a winner of a number of awards, including the Prime Minister’s Award for Australian University Teacher of the Year. His research is focussed on the political economy of development, especially in Latin America. He has also published on refugee issues and has been heavily involved in refugee politics since 2000, most recently in the Canberra Refugee Action Committee. John’s topic will be - Asylum Seekers: Scapegoats Our Politicians Can Afford.

Sama Khan is a final year Law and Arts student at the Australian National University, majoring in International Relations and Middle Eastern studies. As a second generation Australian Muslim, she has a keen interest in the interplay of religiosity, culture, secularism and the law. Sama will speak on how the Australian asylum seeker policy and the public discourse surrounding the issue has impacted Australian-born Muslims and their communities on a personal and social level.

Jeeven Nadanakumar is a Law and Economics student at the Australian National University. He works for World Vision Australia and advises the ACT Government on multicultural affairs as a member of the One Canberra Reference Group. He is also an active member of Canberra’s Tamil community and a former volunteer youth broadcaster on FM91.1 Multicultural Service Community Radio. Jeeven will speak about the significant and diverse contribution that Tamil diaspora have made in Australia, the impact of the government’s policies on young Tamil asylum seekers as well as how that stands in the way of broader social cohesion.