

Manjit Kaur Defence Campaign

Manjit and Palbinder Kaur live in Ardwick, Manchester. They are faced with the threat of separation by the Home Office.

Manjit unwittingly fell foul of our complex Immigration Laws, and even though her daughter, Palbinder, is a British citizen, the government want to deport her.

She would have no way to support herself and her daughter in India, and is therefore faced with leaving Palbinder here to go into care.



I was married in 1974 in India and my husband came to Britain two years later. He always wrote that he wanted me to join him in England, and by 1979 he had managed to get me papers to do so.

I spent a month in hospital before Palbinder was born, on July 23rd 1981. By this time we had problems in our marriage. I was forced to leave home with Palbinder, then three months old.

I moved to an Asian Womens Refuge, and began to receive Supplementary Benefit. They asked me for my passport, then stopped my benefits.

My only choice was to put Palbinder in nursery and find work, as a clothing machinist.

In March 1983 I was interviewed by the Home Office and in December they told me that I had no right to stay in England - because I did not have the correct papers on entry.

I had left everything to my husband, so knew nothing of this until I was here.

I have now been here five years. My life has been terrible, but now I am independent. I have a full-time job, and through efforts of my own and friends have made

a start for myself. My daughter was born here and is a British citizen and I feel this country is my home. My friends and people I work with all want me to stay.

If I am forced to leave I have nothing. My father is dead and my mother physically handicapped.

There is no work in India, I could not live there. Palbinder would not be able to stay with me.

None of my relatives will want to support me because they think I have disgraced the family.

For Palbinder there is nothing in India, she has a right to stay in this country.

How can they force me to leave my daughter here.

Please support me.....

PALBINDER

Palbinder is a young girl of two and a half years. She is also a British citizen. Because of the inhumane practice of the Home Office she is faced with separation from her mother and a childhood in local authority care.

WHAT MANJIT FACES IN INDIA

Manjit's position as a woman whose marriage has broken down would be impossible in India. Her family will not support her and her husband's family will make life very difficult for her. There is no work she could do, she would not be able to find a place to live, or expect any education or support for her daughter.

As a caring mother, Manjit is faced with the heartbreaking decision of whether to part with her daughter. She has decided that she cannot condemn Palbinder to such a life as they would have in India, and will leave her here.

THE RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT

This government places great emphasis on the importance of the family. When members of the campaign met David Waddington, Immigration Minister, in Sheffield, he claimed that the Laws were "firm but fair".

WE do not think it is fair to separate a mother from her daughter

WE do not think it is fair to punish Manjit for her husband's misdeeds

We do not believe that the Laws and Practices of Immigration can be seen as fair because they operate exclusively against black people.

IMMIGRATION LAWS

The laws as operated by David Waddington and his officials mean:

More than fifty people a week are deported

Thousands of families have been separated for many years

HOW YOU CAN HELP

WRITE US LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO BE GIVEN TO THE HOME OFFICE ***

DISTRIBUTE LEAFLETS AND PETITIONS ****

SUPPORT OUR ACTIVITIES ****

GET ANY GROUP YOU ARE IN TO DO THE SAME *****

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