

# **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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# APPENDIX ONE: LIST OF FORMAL INTERVIEWS.

Name	Organisation	Position	Date
Dave Anderson	Baulkham Hills Shire Council	Formerly Migrant Officer FCC	27/3/85 30/5/85
F. Carapetta	Carapetta & Ass.	Valuer	17/5/85 21/5/85
Peter Ong	Commonwealth Bank-Cabramatta	Migrant Officer	29/3/85
Ken Young	Commonwealth Bank-Cabramatta	Deputy Manager	29/3/85
Mr. Momom	Westpac Bank - Cabramatta	Migrant Officer	30/3/85
Hop Van Chu	DIEA	NSW Director of Migrant Services - formerly ed. Bell of Saigon	28/3/85 9/5/85 30/5/85
Janice Vo	DIEA	Education Officer	28/3/85
Rhonda Nelson	DIEA	Senior Research Officer	9/5/85
Kevin McAndrew	DIEA	Parramatta Office	2/5/85
Graham Hudson	Westbridge Hostel	Manager	2/5/85
Phout Mingfissouphanh	Lao Advancement	Welfare Officer	29/3/85
Betty Young	Aust. Chinese & Desc. Mutual Assoc.	Co-ordinator	30/3/85

The Sydney Morning Herald, Thursday, February 16, 1984

# Vietnamese jobless tops 37 pc

By PAOLA TOTARO

Unemployment among Vietnamese and Lebanese-born immigrants has risen to more than three times the national average despite a general fall of 1.1 per cent in the overall ethnic unemployment figures.

According to figures issued by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, in December more than one in three (37.6 per cent) Vietnamese were out of work. (In mid-1983 it was estimated that there were more than 60,000 Vietnamese people in Australia.)

This represents an unemployment rate four times higher than that of people born in Australia (9.2 per cent).

The Lebanese community appears to be equally hard hit by unemployment — in December, 30.5 per cent were jobless.

Although immigrant unemployment fell from 12.2 per cent in September to 11.1 per cent in December (the breakdown for January is not available yet), both the Vietnamese and Lebanese communities registered slight increases.

A spokesman for the NSW Ethnic Affairs Commission said yesterday the problem of unemployment among the two groups had concerned the commission for some time.

"The problem is the result of two important factors — discrimination and the lack of essential skills," he said.

"In the case of the Lebanese in particular, it's important to note that many came to Australia as quasi-refugees of the civil war between 1976 and 1978.

"They arrived in Australia under the family-reunion schemes. They were not chosen on the basis of their skills and many were not given the opportunity to participate in retraining schemes or English classes. The problem we face now

is basically due to a lack of foresight."

The bureau figures show that only the Italian-born labour force had an unemployment rate lower than the Australian-born (7.5 per cent) and thus the lowest rate of all.

Another major immigrant group experienced increased unemployment rates between September and December — Greek-born males who are jobless rose from 10.8 per cent to 13.3 per cent.

The rate of unemployment also appears to be disproportionately high for recently arrived immigrants.

Twenty-six per cent of non-Asian immigrants who arrived in Australia in 1982 or later are unemployed.

Rates for the Asian-born in this category (36.6 per cent) and those born in European countries other than Britain or Ireland (31.3 per cent) are notably higher.

In addition, nearly 15 per cent of immigrants who arrived in Australia between 1976 and 1981 were still unemployed in December last year.

Although jobless rates among people aged 15 to 24 are high generally (13.4 per cent for Australian-born males) the rates for overseas-born young people are even higher (22.6 per cent for overseas-born males).

The unemployment rates (percentage of labour force) for December, with September figures in brackets are:

Persons born outside Australia 11.1 per cent (12.2); America (North and South) 15.4 (20.2); Asia 18.7 (19.1); Lebanon 30.5 (27.8); Vietnam 37.6 (not issued); Europe 9.7 (10.7); Greece 13.1 (13.2); Italy 7.5 (8.3); UK/Ireland 9.7 (9.8); Yugoslavia 11.1 (12.9); Oceania 10.8 (13.1); New Zealand 10.7 (10.7).

An EAC spokesman yesterday said the statistics generally show a need for government programs such as the Community Employment Program and the wage pause program to be more "precisely targeted to relieve disadvantaged groups which, because of race, gender and birth-place, seemed to be suffering the most."

## Helping relatives immigrate

### A guide for sponsors

Most unsponsored people wanting to migrate to Australia cannot satisfy the strict requirements. If that is the case with your relatives, you may be able to help them by lodging a sponsorship under the Commonwealth Government's Family Migration Program.

You are eligible to lodge a sponsorship if you are at least 18 years of age and an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia who has lived legally in Australia for at least two years. The requirement that a sponsor must have lived in Australia for at least two years does not apply if a spouse, dependent child or fiancé is being sponsored.

### Who can be sponsored?

- your spouse
- your child
- your parent
- your brother or sister
- your fiancé

Only in special circumstances can more distant relatives, such as uncles, aunts and cousins, be sponsored (see "Other special groups").

### What is required of sponsors?

When you sponsor a relative, you are supporting that relative's case for entry to Australia and obtaining some important concessions from the usual requirements. In return, as sponsor, you will have to undertake certain responsibilities towards your relatives and any accompanying dependants.

Two types of sponsorship are possible:

#### Standard Sponsorship:

Through this type of sponsorship you undertake to provide:

- (i) general advice and assistance to help your relatives settle in Australia; and
- (ii) adequate accommodation for them on arrival.

#### Full Sponsorship:

Through this type of sponsorship, you undertake to provide the standard assistance outlined above, *plus* any accommodation and financial assistance they may need for a period of 12 months after their arrival in Australia.

Sponsors may also be required to assist their relatives in other ways or to undertake other commitments. For some—usually working-age parents, adult children and brothers and sisters—you will be required to pre-arrange employment. For others—usually parents aged 50 or more—you will be required to sign an Assurance

of Support. This Assurance makes you responsible for accommodation and financial support for your relatives for a specified period—up to 10 years—and you will become liable to repay any Special Benefit paid to your relative by the Commonwealth or any financial maintenance support paid by a State or a charitable institution during that period.

### Your decision to sponsor

Before committing yourself to a sponsorship, make sure you can afford the accommodation and money to support your relative for the period required. You should also think carefully about the best interests of your relative and your relative's family. Their prospects in Australia will not necessarily match your own experience.

### Requirements in Australia

If you decide to sponsor a relative, you must lodge your sponsorship with an office of the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs in the State in which you live.

Your eligibility to lodge a sponsorship will be checked and if this initial check is passed, the Department will arrange for an Australian Government Office overseas to invite your relative to apply for migrant entry.

*You should remember that there is no guarantee that your relative's application will be approved. Your relative will still have to meet requirements overseas. Your ability to meet the commitments you are required to undertake and availability of arranged employment (if a requirement) will also be checked.*

### Selection requirements overseas

Requirements vary, depending on relationships and the degree of support which is likely to be needed.

#### Your spouse

Approval is not automatic. Your spouse will have to be assessed overseas for good health and good character.

#### Your child

If *unmarried* and still part of your family unit, your child will have to be assessed overseas for good health and good character.

An *adult* child, not part of your family unit, will have to be assessed on the points system (see separate leaflet *The 'points' test for migrants—how the system works*) and must also have satisfactory prospects of settlement, good health and good character. If you lodge a *full sponsorship*, your child will receive extra points on the assessment. This concession is in return for the additional support you undertake to provide. If you are an Australian citizen your child will receive more points than if you are not. Regardless of which sponsorship you choose, you must pre-arrange employment.

### Your parents

If of Australian retiring age or older (60 for women, 65 for men) your parents will be assessed for good health and good character. Settlement prospects will be taken into account. You will also be required to give an Assurance of Support.

If your parents are of working age, they must be assessed as having satisfactory settlement prospects, good health and good character. If your parents are likely to seek entry to the workforce, a *full sponsorship* will be required and you will have to pre-arrange employment. In some cases you will have to give an Assurance of Support.

### Your brother or sister

A brother or sister will be assessed on the points system and also will need satisfactory prospects of settlement, good health and good character. If you lodge a *full sponsorship*, your brother or sister will receive extra points on the assessment. This concession is in return for the additional support you undertake to provide. If you are an Australian citizen your brother or sister will receive more points than if you are not. Regardless of which sponsorship you choose, you must pre-arrange employment.

### Fiance (male or female)

Fiances are admitted initially on a temporary basis for three months and change of status to permanent resident is granted upon proof of genuine marriage. Your fiancé must be personally known to you and you both must have a genuine intention to marry.

Your fiancé will have to be assessed overseas for good health and good character, and settlement prospects will be taken into account. For your fiancé to be considered, you must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident and you must submit a *standard sponsorship*. An Assurance of Support will be required for a short period.

Evidence will be required from an authorised marriage celebrant that arrangements have been made for the marriage to take place within the three months of arrival. You will be advised by the Department when to obtain this evidence.

### Other special groups

Family migration concessions also exist for a few cases involving children for adoption, certain orphans, relatives required to help overcome serious family crises such as death or prolonged illness, and wholly-supported relatives over retirement age. Further concessions exist for brothers, sisters and non-dependent children who are the last remaining family members overseas. You should ask the Department for detailed requirements in your particular case.

The 'points' test for migrants

How the system works

This leaflet gives more detail about the points system mentioned in the companion leaflets *Who can migrate to Australia—The main requirements* and *Helping relatives immigrate—A guide for sponsors*. Australia can accept only a small percentage of those who want to settle here. The Migrant Selection System is designed to select those with the best chance of settling successfully. The same rules apply everywhere so that everyone is considered on the same basis. Working-age applicants must show that they have a good chance of quickly becoming self-supporting.

Who is assessed?

- As part of the selection process, a points system is used to determine an applicant's prospects in Australia. The points system applies to:
- Brothers, sisters and non-dependent children, sponsored under the Family Migration category.
  - Un-sponsored people whose occupations are listed under the Occupational Shares System. Because of the small numbers of occupations listed and the limits on the numbers of persons admitted for each occupation, entry is competitive. Details are available from the Department or from Australian Government Offices overseas.
  - Employer nominees and business migrants.
- The points system is applied only to the main income-earner in a family.

The points table is set out below. In order to pass, eligible applicants must score 60 points or more. Applicants get only one score on each factor.

Factor	Score
<b>Skills</b>	
Professional, technical and skilled workers	
• whose qualifications are recognised in Australia	10
• whose qualifications have been assessed but which are not fully recognised in Australia (these points are granted only in exceptional circumstances)	6
Service occupations	6
Clerical, commercial and administrative	6
Semi-skilled	6
Rural and unskilled	2

Factor	Score
<b>Employment</b>	
Employer nominees and business migrants	16
Other arranged employment	10
Occupation listed on the Occupational Shares Schedule	10
<b>Age</b>	
20-35 years	8
36-45 years	4
Under 20 years	2
46 and over	0
<b>Education</b>	
Completed tertiary	8
Full secondary	6
First part secondary	5
Less than first part secondary	3
<b>Employment Record</b>	
Outstanding	10
Good	8
Satisfactory	5
Low employment prospects	0
<b>Economic Prospects</b>	
Full sponsorship by an Australia citizen	28
Full sponsorship by a non-citizen	25
Skilled Labour and Business Migration	25
Good	15
Satisfactory	10
Minor problems	5
Major problems	0
<b>Designated Area</b>	
Intention to settle in a designated area (available only to sponsored brothers, sisters and non-dependent children)	6

Before trying to assess your own or someone else's prospects, read the following explanation of the factors in the points table. More detailed information may be obtained from the Migrant Entry Handbook.

The factors explained Skills

Points for skill level are based on the occupation an applicant intends to follow in Australia, provided that the applicant has been suitably trained. Qualifications must be recognised in Australia to gain full points.

Employment

To qualify for 10 points, an applicant must either have an occupation listed under the Occupational Shares System or have arranged for an employer in Australia to complete a Confirmation of Offer of Employment form (M61). Offers of employment not on form M61 will not attract any points.

Age

This refers to the age of the applicant at the time of the selection interview held overseas—not the age when an application or sponsorship was lodged, or age on arrival in Australia.

Education

- This is judged on levels of education equating most closely with the Australian system. The levels are:
- *Completed tertiary*—successfully completed a course at a university or college of advanced education leading to a Bachelor's degree or higher.
  - *Full secondary*—successfully completed secondary education and gained matriculation to a university or college of advanced education, or completed the first part of secondary education and then completed a course leading to the granting of a technical diploma or certificate at a technical college or a technical and further education (TAFE) institution.
  - *First part secondary*—successfully completed secondary education up to, but not including, the last two pre-matriculation years.

Employment record

- This is different from skill level. To receive the full 10 points, applicants usually would have all the following attributes:
- several years' experience in employment in the occupation to be followed long-term in Australia (a long-term occupation may differ from employment initially taken up on arrival in Australia)
  - a record of employment showing a stable, responsible approach and a record of success and achievement
  - good progress in advancing in the job, where the job is one in which advancement is possible
  - good references or other evidence of personal qualities related to the proposed employment in Australia.

Economic prospects

- Applicants are assessed on their likely ability to support themselves and, if appropriate, their family in Australia. The following are taken into consideration:
- size and composition of family
  - ages and degree of dependence of any children
  - likely family incomes, capital and debts
  - past performance in earning a living
  - any pension or annuity which will continue to be paid
  - any support promised by an organisation experienced in migrant settlement in Australia.
- Non-dependent children, brothers and sisters whose Australian citizen sponsors have shown that they can fully support the migrant (and any family) for 12 months after arrival receive 28 points; where the relative is a

## Govt expected to set migrant intake of 82,000

By RICHARD MCGREGOR

CANBERRA: The Federal Government plans to highlight the number of illegal migrants gaining permanent residency in Australia when it announces the immigration intake for the next 12 months.

The Minister for Immigration, Mr Hurford, has set the 1985-6 intake at about 82,000. This includes an estimated 8,000 people who will be given permanent residency after illegally overstaying their visas.

Mr Hurford has decided to count the change-of-status figures in the migrant intake to emphasise that illegal immigration is being used as a back door to settle in Australia.

The family reunion component of the migrant intake will remain at the 1984-5 level of 42,000, but the number of refugees admitted will drop by 2,000, according to Mr Hurford's Cabinet submission. About 4,000 more skilled migrants will come to Australia in line with the growth in the economy.

The 1984-5 migrant intake is estimated at 64,000, well below the 74,000 target, plus another 6,000 illegal immigrants given permanent residency.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Expenditure will hear evidence in Canberra next week from government departments about how illegal immigrants can receive social security and Medicare payments, and legal aid to fight deportation orders.

Government officials say that the estimate of 8,000 illegal immigrants who will be granted permanent residency in the next 12 months is understated and the number could rise as high as 12,000.

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD  
2.5.1985 : 3

# leaders attack migration change

From Page 1

Mr Warrick Neilley, national research officer of the Building Workers' Industrial Union, said that although the union would always welcome new immigrant workers, it believed the Government's skilled immigration program indicated it was "turning to the arbitrary use of immigration to provide skilled labour in an industry in which unemployment remains high".

Training, and not immigration, was the answer to any labour shortages.

The secretary of the NSW Nurses' Association, Ms Jenny Haines, said the union accepted that nurses from overseas were needed in the short term, but it was concerned that the hospitals appeared to be recruiting from Britain and Ireland and ignoring South-East Asia and North America.

Westmead Hospital had indicated an interest in recruiting from Hong Kong, but to her knowledge no recruitments had been made in that area.

Mr George Miltenyi, ethnic affairs officer of the NSW Trades and Labor Council, said the Government apparently refused to consult unions when calculating the numbers needed in the various occupations.

The council believed there were no known economic means by which the Government could calculate accurately that, for example, 150 bricklayers were needed. It would make better economic sense for the Government to pursue business and employer-sponsored immigration rather than immigration by skill.

The chairman of the Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia, Mr W.G. Wojak, condemned aspects of the program which he said were a "move away from multi-cultural and humanitarian policies".

It was absurd for Mr Hurford to justify limiting migrants from non-English-speaking countries by arguing that it was unable to meet the demand for English language classes.

While the minister was claiming that the family reunion program for Indo-Chinese migrants would increase, an analysis of the figures showed the family reunion component would decrease from 56.8 per cent of the 1984-85 intake to 50 per cent in 1985-86.

Family reunions would be increased by 2,000 in the category of brother, sister or non-dependent child. But the rise would be cancelled out by a decrease of 2,000 in the proposed intake of spouses, children and aged parents.

Mr Wojak said the refugee cutbacks ignored the plight of some 200,000 Indo-Chinese refugees facing forced repatriation by the Thai Government.

## Migration change comes under fire

By PETER WHITE,  
Ethnic Affairs Reporter

The Federal Government's new immigration program has been attacked as "madness" and a "move away from multi-cultural and humanitarian policies" by union and ethnic leaders.

The Vehicle Builders' Union said it would even consider refusing membership to immigrant workers brought in under the program.

The program, announced last week, seeks a rise in overall immigrant intake, envisages a cutback in Indo-Chinese refugees, modifies assessment procedures so that they favour applicants who speak English and seeks to boost skilled and business immigration.

Figures obtained exclusively by the *Herald* show the number of immigrants in various occupation categories likely to be allowed in by the Government under the 1985-86 skilled immigration plan. (See table).

### EXCLUSIVE

circulated the figures to other Government departments and unions for comment before their expected release this week.

Although some alterations and additions are possible, the numbers are expected to remain largely unchanged.

They include places for 300 motor mechanics, 100 panelbeaters, 50 motor vehicle painters, 300 carpenters, 150 bricklayers and 50 tilers.









Responding to the figures, the secretary of the Vehicle Builders' Union, Mr Joe Thompson, said his union was "disgusted" by the allocation of immigrants in the vehicle building industry.

It was "madness" for the Government to bring in these numbers in view of the jobless among vehicle building workers. Many apprentices were unable to get work.

The Immigration Department

Continued Page 4

### SUGGESTED INTAKE OF SKILLED MIGRANTS

	Industrial engineers	50		Computer program / system analysts	500
	Electrical engineers	50		Upholsterers	100
	Petroleum engineers	50		Economists	100
	Sub editors	50		Accountants	300
	Motor vehicle mechanics	300		Occupational therapists	50
	Motor vehicle painters	50		Speech therapists	50
	Panel beaters	100		Physio-therapists	100
	Cabinet makers	100		Tool and die makers	100
	Wood machinists	25		Tilers (Wall & floor)	50
	Furniture polishers	50		Carpenters (Fixing & roofing)	300
	Actuaries	25		Pastrycooks	50
	Chefs (French cuisine)	200		Waiters (skilled)	100
	Chefs (Asian cuisine)	50		Bricklayers	150
					<b>TOTAL 3,050</b>

Source: Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD  
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# CITY OF FAIRFIELD Advance

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## Customers flocking to new food outlets; Chinese bring touch of France to Fairfield

THE HOT bread business is booming in Fairfield.

During the past six months three new hot bread retail outlets have begun operating in the central business district, all operated by South East Asians.

Two similar Asian businesses are doing a roaring trade in Cabramatta.

An Australian operated hot bread shop, The Bread Bin in Smart Street, still enjoys a lively business, despite the competition.

Proprietors of one of the new shops, husband and wife team Vinh Thang Loi Vuong and Don Nai Vuong, said they worked long hours to prosper in their business.

Their shop at the corner of The Crescent and Smart Street is open seven days a week, from 6am to 7pm.

A working day starts at 2am when the dough for the day is mixed. The first loaves go into the oven at about 5.30am.

From then on it is a continual mix and bake operation to keep up with the heavy demand from passing trade.

The Vuongs are helped in their business by Mrs Vuong's brother, Huynh Hoac Quang.

Baking became a way of life for Mr Vuong when he was 17 and worked part-time in his younger brother's hot bread shop in Saigon.

Escape from Vietnam found the

## BREAD TRADE ON THE RISE!

By Susan Murray

Vuongs in Malaysia. They then migrated to Australia as refugees in 1978.

Wollongong was their destination. Mr Vuong worked in the steelworks to save money for a house and establish his family in a business of its own.

The seeds of the business were planted last October when, during a visit to Fairfield, they noticed a To Let sign in the window of the shop that was to become their livelihood.

They rallied around to raise the money — sold their home in Wollongong and borrowed money to purchase the \$80,000 worth of equipment to bring their dream to life.

The oven alone cost \$28,00 and the dough mixer \$9000.

The French style of bread was introduced to the Vietnamese people many years ago and is now becoming a popular addition on the shopping lists of Fairfield housewives.

The hot bread shops are among the first Indo-Chinese businesses to establish in Fairfield.

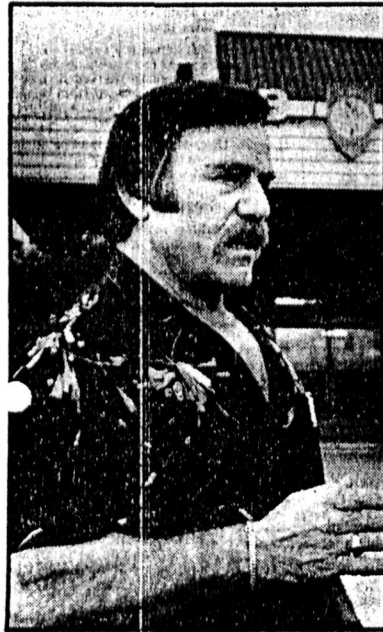
Cabramatta already has a thriving Indo-Chinese business community, with about 150 shops and offices in operation, and more on the way.

Most are family-owned and operated, and many are open at the weekend, attracting Indo-Chinese from both the Fairfield area and other parts of Sydney.

RIGHT: Huynh Hoac Quang is pictured putting hot bread loaves into the oven to supply the heavy demand.



# GANG VIOLENCE TURNING THE SUBURB INTO THE KINGS CROSS OF THE WEST



Pictures by JOHN NOBLEY

Alderman Morizzi and Simon Le (next to the guitarist) with his friends ... the same struggle as in his youth.

## Alderman sees a mirror image of 50s

Five years ago an Independent Fairfield alderman, Joe Morizzi, admitted he was worried about the growing number of Asian immigrants living in Cabramatta.

To him it seemed the immigrants, particularly the Vietnamese, were "taking over". An incident in which a wedding party he was with became entangled in a street brawl after a car accident involving an Australian and a Vietnamese motorist did nothing to cool his feelings.

But Alderman Morizzi has changed his mind and says he was very, very wrong.

"I had closed my mind ... all I could see was me being invaded by these people," he said.

He now sees a reflection of his youth in the young Vietnamese teenagers who live in his council ward. In the 1950s, Alderman Morizzi was a young Italian immigrant fighting to survive in the same land.

Alderman Morizzi said that although he knew nothing about what really happened at the Vietnamese club in Cabramatta, he was prepared to accept that many Asian youths were members of street gangs. "They

have a tendency to stick together and when they flare up they flare up."

"I know ... I did it as an Italian migrant in 1954. If we went anywhere we always went in groups ... in gangs ... for fear of being bashed up for being wogs."

The alderman said that when he spoke out about the problems of having Asians living in Cabramatta, he had forgotten what he had lived through when he first came to Australia.

That was a time when an immigrant heard whistling an Italian tune would be told: "Shut up you wog or I'll bash your head in."

The hostility by Australians towards European immigrants meant the immigrants had to stick together in gangs and fight to defend themselves.

"In 1954, '55 and '56 we (European immigrants) fought ... we fought like you wouldn't believe."

He is convinced the Asian immigrants are finding that the same applies to them today although this time there is one important difference.

Alderman Morizzi said that the

immigrants of the 1950s, including the Germans, Dutch, Poles, Yugoslavs and the Italians had now blended into the rest of the community: "You might detect an accent but you can't be really sure where they come from."

Although the Asian immigrants and refugees would one day speak like ordinary Australians and follow the customs of ordinary Australians, they would always look different, making the prejudices harder to dissolve.

"When I walk past the pub the drinkers sitting outside no longer call me a wog but they call the man next to me a slanty-eyed bastard. In 10 years, if nothing is done, he could still be a slanty-eyed bastard to many Australians."

Because the Asian immigrants were "so visible", there was a lot of resistance to their living in Cabramatta.

The resistance was not only from Australians but also from European immigrants of previous decades. "That's what really hurts me," said the alderman. "Tensions are rising and we are sitting on a powder keg."

He said it was essential that

additional programs be launched immediately to teach new immigrants and refugees about basic Australian customs and practices such as how to put out the garbage and how to use clothes lines for hanging up the washing.

It was also important to launch educational programs that would explode the myths Australians had about Asian immigrants and refugees.

"In pubs you hear about how the Vietnamese are given \$12,000 by the Government, how they are given things for free, how they arrive with gold bars in their pockets and how they have come to take our jobs away. It's all garbage," Alderman Morizzi said.

The real reason Asians had been so successful in buying cars, homes and businesses was that they were "very enterprising people" and that unlike Australians their friends and relatives would always rally together to help each other in new projects.

"A woman once asked me why an Asian had taken her husband's job. I told her the Asian had not taken her husband's job, he had given his job away," Alderman Morizzi said.

## Making some friends is the best way to get on

For thousands of young Vietnamese immigrants and refugees, the English language is their bridge to friendship with other Australians.

"If your English is good enough, you can get by," said 21-year-old Simon Le.

Simon is one of several hundred young Vietnamese students living in Sydney who have no parents. He and four other Vietnamese youths share a suburban house in which they live with the help of the Catholic Church.

The youths contribute a total of about \$60 a week from their student allowances towards their living costs. The rest is met by the Church.

Simon and his friends said all they knew about the street gangs and gambling clubs was what they read in the papers.

They said they were convinced that Vietnamese youths and Australian youths were much the same. Some worked and studied hard and some were "slack".

"We are all the same if you want to study," said Simon when asked if he thought there were any differences between Vietnamese and Australian youths.

Simon, an accountancy student at Petersham Technical College, and his flatmates — students at various high schools — said that on weekends they often relaxed by going out with Vietnamese and Australian friends.

"Sometimes we go out with friends to the city. We go to see a picture show," said Simon.

He added, however, that they generally had little money left at the end of the week for spending on entertainment.

All the students agreed that the hardest part of adapting to Australian life was learning to speak English.

Kenny Hong, a high school student interested in finding a job in computing, said he found that mixing with Australian friends was the best way to learn.

It even beat intensive English classes. His flatmates agreed.

Simon and Kenny said they believed they worked harder than their Australian classmates, but not simply because they enjoyed the extra work.

Australians, if they really wanted to, said Simon, could find a job without having worked hard at school.

"When we came to Australia we had to start all over again. If we did not work hard we would not be anything."

"That is the only reason we work hard," Simon said.

# Report on migrants critical of Blainey

MELBOURNE: A report on Indo-Chinese refugees in Victoria has criticised Professor Geoffrey Blainey, the man whose recent comments on immigration sparked controversy, saying he provided the initial force for politicising the issue.

The Ethnic Affairs Commission report, accompanying a survey, was released yesterday.

It showed that about 7 per cent of Victoria's Indo-Chinese refugees were concerned about racial discrimination and found it a barrier to job improvement.

It said claims of a "strained level of tolerance" toward Asian migrants were grossly overstated.

The Minister for Ethnic Affairs, Mr Spyker, said yesterday that the claims had been put forward by racist minorities who wanted an anti-Asian migration policy.

He said Indo-Chinese refugees were being used as "convenient scapegoats" for unemployment and the economic recession.

The survey, in which 561 families and 15 community groups responded, produced "a very different picture from that portrayed in the media by vociferous minorities with dubious aims".

The report said Professor Blainey provided the initial force for the politicisation of the issue when he argued "on rather vague, empirical evidence" that Australian society had reached a maximum level of tolerance of Asian migration.

"Unfortunately, [Professor] Blainey's suggested way of coping with the perceived threatening wave of unrest does not include a closer look at our own society, nor does it acknowledge the positive contribution that the Indo-Chinese have made to Australian society," the report said.

Australia's acceptance of Indo-Chinese refugees was now "a fact of life" and there was little empirical evidence to support the notion that Asian migration was ahead of community acceptance.

"In fact, studies during the late seventies and early eighties indicate that public opinion is generally in agreement with Government migration policies."

Professor Blainey replied by criticising the Ethnic Affairs Commission in Victoria, which he said had previously attributed to him statements which he had never made and had not promoted calm discussion on the issue.

"I believe it has done more than any other institution in Victoria to inflame discussion by a complete and utter misrepresentation of my views," he said.

He attacked the report for quoting studies from the late seventies and early eighties to support its belief that Asian migration was not ahead of community acceptance.

"It is pointless for the commission to quote opinion polls of two or even seven years ago when we are living in 1984," he said.

The report recommended teach-yourself English programs and specific employment programs for the Asian refugees and the appointment of a liaison officer to help migrant families decide where to settle.

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