

# THESE WALLS MUST FALL



Brick by brick,  
wall by wall...

Detention  
centres  
will fall!

People are being taken from our communities, locked up in prison-like detention centres without time limit, with no idea of when they might be released. Why? They just don't have the correct immigration papers. This has to stop. **These Walls Must Fall.**

[detention.org.uk](http://detention.org.uk)

@wallsmustfall

#TheseWallsMustFall

# WHAT IS IMMIGRATION DETENTION?

Immigration detention is the government policy of locking up people who do not (yet) have leave to remain in the UK, or whose leave to remain has expired, or who cannot prove their right to remain.

Almost 30,000 people are detained every year. Many thousands more are at risk of being detained at any time, without warning.

People are locked up in prison-like conditions, behind bars and barbed wire, but their detention is not to do with any criminal offence. It's for administration, bureaucracy. It's a dark part of the immigration and asylum system.

Most people who are detained are eventually released back to their lives in the UK. But only having suffered weeks, months or even years of trauma. Detention destroys lives

Detention cuts people off from basic rights, from lawyers, from justice. Detention shuts people off from friends, family, communities.

It costs over £30,000 to keep someone in detention. The financial cost is unjustifiable. The human cost is immeasurable.

There is no time limit on detention. When someone is detained they do not know if it will be for weeks, months, or years. This can have a crushing impact on mental health. Britain is the only country in Europe to detain people indefinitely like this.

An asylum claim refused. A visa expired. Losing a job. Working without permission. Becoming homeless. Filling in a form incorrectly. An error in a tax return. Leaving an abusive partner. Any difficulty with the complex immigration system can lead to detention.

Independent research shows that detention causes harm to people's physical and mental health. Vulnerable people deteriorate in detention, and people who were not vulnerable before become vulnerable.

*This has to stop.  
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*Find out more:  
detention.org.uk  
#TheseWallsMustFall*