

To the Hon Tony Burke,

Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, and Minister for Cyber Security.

I'm writing with deep concern and urgency to call for an immediate end to Border Force raids targeting the workplaces of migrant sex workers.

These operations, carried out by armed, uniformed officers, are not only traumatising and discriminatory, but they also represent a gross abuse of power. They disproportionately target Asian migrant workers and have become alarmingly frequent. In Melbourne alone, there have been at least 18 raids reported this year, with new incidents occurring almost weekly.

I have heard first hand accounts from sex workers who have done nothing wrong, yet feel forced to self-deport simply to escape the relentless harassment. These are people who came to Australia seeking safety and opportunity, and instead have been met with fear and violation.

Asian migrant sex workers have described:

- Being harassed by the prolonged presence of armed officers near their workplaces before and after "compliance operations."
- Having their phones forcibly taken when trying to photograph documents presented for signature.
- Being denied access to translation apps, receiving incorrect translations, or not being offered any translation support at all.

Even when no breaches are found, the trauma left behind is lasting. Workers fear visa consequences simply for being present during a raid. These actions have shattered trust in authorities and undermine efforts to protect workplace rights and safety.

This is not about compliance. It is about racial profiling, intimidation, and the misuse of state power.

I urge the Albanese Government to take immediate action:

- End Border Force raids on migrant worker workplaces.
- Provide fair and accessible visa pathways for those seeking to work in Australia.
- End racial profiling at borders and within immigration enforcement.
- Close detention centres like Nauru, and allow people awaiting visas to live safely in the community.

These steps are essential to uphold the dignity, safety, and human rights of migrant workers in Australia.

Yours sincerely, Jenna Love