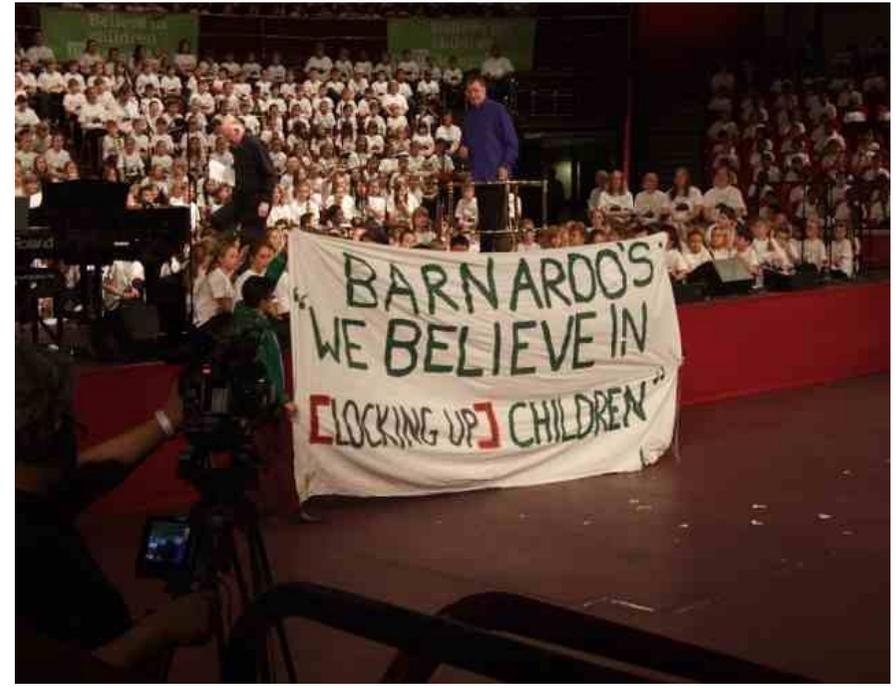


Barnardos facilitate the existence of “Cedars” - a detention centre which locks up children. Without them it would not exist.

For more info see overleaf or contact Oxford No Borders via <http://noborders.theoarc.org.uk/> . Picture from a protest at a Barnardos fundraiser at the Royal Albert Hall



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Barnardos profits from the detention and deportation of children and families. It is under contract to provide services at “Cedars” - an immigration detention centre run by the notorious G4S, a violent security company whose guards killed the Angolan asylum seeker Jimmy Mubenga on a BA flight from Heathrow.

We don't believe adult migrants should be detained or deported, but the impact on children is even worse. In 'State Sponsored Cruelty', a 2010 report by Medical Justice, 74 out of 141 detained children surveyed had been 'psychologically harmed' by detention, resulting in food refusal, development regression and suicidal behaviour. 48% were born in the UK, and were at risk of deportation to a country they had never even visited. Al Aynsley Green, ex-Children's Commissioner for England said "Detention is harmful to children and therefore never likely to be their best interests".

This pressure led to the government promising to end child detention. But, with Barnardos giving them cover by promising to ensure that child detention was done in a humane way (clue—we don't think this is possible), they instead went ahead with Cedars detention centre.

In July last year, Barnardo's set 'red lines' for its involvement in the pilot scheme. The conditions included withdrawing services if more than 10 percent of the families deported in the first year of the trial went through the centre; if any family has stayed at the centre more than once or for longer than the one week maximum; or if disproportionate force is used with a family on route to or from the centre.

Campaigners say many of these conditions have been breached repeatedly but Barnardo's is 'simply ignoring' that and refusing to listen to anyone. Many families have reported suffering from trauma and being subjected to verbal abuse & physical assaults by the security guards. At least one family is known to have been held at the centre for over one week. A n investigation by the UKBA's Professional Standards Unit into allegations surrounding the actions of Reliance security guards found that inappropriate force had been used in the case of one individual deported from Cedars. Instead of pulling out as they promised, Barnardos simply raised concerns formally with the relevant Government Minister, and carried on as before.

It's not an easy decision to take to protest against a charity. But their involvement in child detention taints everything else they do. We're asking everyone connected with Barnardos—whether you're a member of staff, a volunteer, or a donor, to challenge them and make sure they end their involvement with child detention immediately.

If you're not sure who to contact, you can try calling their Head Office to complain on 0208 550 8822. Tweet them at @barnardos and email them via http://www.barnardos.org.uk/contact_form.htm

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