



# Refugee Council of Australia

## Refugee Council Guide to Calling Talkback Radio May 2010

Talkback radio is a powerful tool for the distribution of ideas. It can also be a vehicle for myths and untruths about refugee and asylum seeker issues. There are some shows which regularly talk about this issue, often inaccurately and using inflammatory negative language and false 'facts'.

The Refugee Council of Australia invites members and supporters to call talkback radio to offer comment or correct inaccuracies. If we do not tackle the issue, who else will counter the misinformation and lies told on talkback?

Here are ten tips to keep in mind when calling:

1. Have a few main points, facts and figures written down to use as a guide (rather than memorising a script).
2. Turn radio off and wait for cue via telephone to avoid interference.
3. Take a few deep breaths and try to steady any nerves. Remember to keep breathing.
4. Be clear and concise. Get straight to the point (remember you have limited time).
5. Avoid jargon. Use plain language.
6. Do not rant or get angry. Maintain composure.
7. Address the listeners rather than the talkback host, consider the target audience of the program.
8. Avoid repetition and verbal crutches such as 'like', 'ums' and 'ahs'.
9. Do not abuse the host or any previous caller. Avoid defamatory or derogatory comments.
10. Thank the host for their time.

### Contact Numbers

#### Australia-wide

ABC NewsRadio - 13 9994

ABC Radio National - (02) 8333 2821

#### NSW

2GB (873AM) - 131 873

2UE (954AM) - (02) 9930 9954

2SM (1269AM) - 13 12 69

ABC Newcastle (1233AM) - 1300 233 222

ABC Illawarra (97.3FM) - 1300 973 300

ABC Sydney (702AM) - 1300 222 702

#### SA

ABC Adelaide (891AM) - 1300 222 891

FiveAA (1395AM) - (08) 8223 0000

Fresh (92.7FM) - 1300 7 FRESH

Radio Adelaide (101.5FM) - (08) 8303 5000

#### TAS

ABC Hobart (936AM) - 1300 222 936

7HO (101.7FM) - (03) 6216 1017

#### ACT

ABC Canberra (666AM) - 1300 681 666

#### NT

ABC Alice Springs (783AM) - 1300 019 783

ABC Darwin (105.7FM) - 1300 057 222

#### QLD

ABC Brisbane (612AM) - 1300 222 612

4BC (1116 AM) - 13 13 32

#### WA

6PR (882AM) - (08) 9221 1882

ABC Perth (720AM) - 1300 222 720

RTR (92.1FM) - (08) 9260 9210

#### VIC

3AW (693AM) - (03) 9690 0693

3CR (855AM) - (03) 9419 0155

ABC Melbourne (774AM) - 1300 222 774

PBS (106.7FM) - (03) 8415 1067

SYN (90.7FM) - (03) 9925 9907

RRR (102.7FM) - (03) 9388 1027