

Private Firms and the Expansion of Detention

Christine BACON (2005). The Evolution of Immigration Detention in the UK: The Involvement of Private Prison Companies: An RSC Working Paper. Oxford, Refugee Studies Centre: 39.

In this study of the development of the UK detention estate, Bacon draws attention to the essential roles played by the politically and economically influential private prison industry. She points out that the reliance of this powerful industry on continued profits may have contributed to the development of the 'fast-track' and end-to-end detention procedures as well as the secret 'White List' of countries presumed to produce only 'clearly unfounded' refugee claims. Importantly, Bacon concludes, the growing commercial interest in detention will inevitably curb any emerging official or popular impetus towards exploring non-custodial alternatives or developing a presumption that migrants *won't* abscond if not detained (as opposed to the current assumption that they will flee).

Further reading:

- Burnett, J. and F. Chebe (2010). "Captive labour: asylum seekers, migrants and employment in UK immigration removal centres." *Race & Class* **51**(4): 95 - 103.
- Díaz Jr., J. (2011). "Immigration Policy, Criminalization and the Growth of the Immigration Industrial Complex: Restriction, Expulsion, and Eradication of the Undocumented in the U.S." *Western Criminology Review* **12**(2): 35 - 54.
- Flynn, M. and C. Cannon (2009). The Privatization of Immigration Detention: Towards a Global View. *Global Detention Project Working Papers*. Geneva, The Graduate Institute: 25.
- Green, P. (1990). Private sector involvement in the immigration detention centres. London, Howard League for Penal Reform.
- Hall, L. (2004). "Nomads under the Tent of Blue: Migrants Fuel the U.S. Prison Industry." *Rutgers Race & the Law Review* **6**(2): 265 - 364.
- Koulisch, R. (2007). "Profit, Plenary Powers and Militarization: A 'Perfect Storm' Scenario for Immigration Control." *Journal of Migration and Refugee Issues* **3**(4): 149 - 176.
- Lucas, A. M. (2005). "Huddled masses: Immigrants in detention." *Punishment & Society* **70**(03): 323 - 329.
- Mason, C. (2012). Too Good to be True: Private Prisons in America. Washington, DC, The Sentencing Project: 25.
- McEntee, A. D. (2003). "The Failure of Domestic and International Mechanisms to Redress the Harmful Effects of Australian Immigration Detention." *Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal* **12**(01): 263 - 289.
- Taylor, M. H. (1995). "Detained Aliens Challenging Conditions of Confinement and the Porous Border of the Plenary Power Doctrine " *Hastings Constitutional Law Journal* **22**(4): 1087 - 1158.