

## ABSTRACT

Immigration is one of the crucial issues for Australia as a migrant country. There are several reasons why Australia is regarded as the migrant destination country. Not only for economic motive, the immigrant claims themselves as refugee and asylum seekers also make Australia as their destination migrant country. Moreover, the ratification of UNHCR 1951 convention and 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugee make Australia has an international obligation to help UNHCR in solving refugee problem. There are some actions done by Australian government to fulfill its international obligation. This paper is more concern about the immigration problem in Australia especially for refugee problem. One of the most important events related to the refugee problem in Australia is Tampa Affair and the implementation of Pacific Solution. Yet, the action of Australian government in Tampa Affair and the implementation of Pacific Solution under Howard administration was assessed as a broken of Australia international obligation under the Convention. This paper aims to analyze the factors that influence the Australian government in making the decision to implement Pacific Solution. Decision making theory was used to gain the purpose of this study. There are three factors that influence the Australian government in making Pacific Solution policy. Not only about domestic politic related to the tension among parties and administration at that time, the economic and military capabilities that consider refugee as a threat also play role in influencing the decision makers. Moreover, the rise of refugee number globally in international arena also became the factor behind Australia government decision to implement Pacific Solution.

*Key Words: Australia, Howard administration, Immigration, Pacific Solution, 1951 UNHCR Convention and 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugee*