THE MP FOR CANAVAN DEMANDS THAT PRO-REFUGEE PROTESTORS SHOULD "PAY THE PRICE" FOR THEIR ACTIONS AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

(December 1) Perhaps their actions were dishonourable, disrespectful, and disruptive of our parliamentarians and guests. (Just like parliamentarians during Question Time!) And perhaps their actions were even illegal.

Certainly, their actions were born out of frustration over the increasing intransigence of our many Governments and the resulting damage done to those deserving of our duty of care. Still, the protesters' actions were entirely non-violent and non-harmful ... which is significantly more than I can say about our Governments' policies dealing with asylum seekers.

"Saint Augustine said, 'An unjust law is no law at all,' which means I have a right, even a duty, to resist - with violence or civil disobedience. You should pray I choose the latter." (James Farmer, 1936) I empathise with the frustration that led the protesters to those actions, and I commend the protesters for choosing the path of civil disobedience and non-violence.

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