

LIVING UNDOCUMENTED: REMOVAL, DETENTION & RAIDS

If you are undocumented, there is always the chance that you will face detention and attempts by the Home Office to remove you from the UK. Deportation is the legal term used only in relation to the return of foreign national prisoners to their country of origin. Different rules apply to deportation.

'Removal' means being forced by authorities to leave the UK and return to your home country. This should not happen immediately; there will be a minimum of five days between a 'notice of intention to remove' document being given to you and your removal taking place.

You have time during the removal process to exercise your rights and perhaps prevent removal, by:

1. Appealing the Removal
2. Seeking a Court 'injunction' to stop it
3. Contacting your MP

Always seek legal advice and keep all documentation given to you

57% of people detained without leave to remain are then released, usually as there is a lack of documentation for their removal, their country won't accept them back, or there are legal challenges.

Immigration Raids

You could also be picked up from your home or during immigration raids on businesses, or during stop-and-searches in public spaces.

Know What to Do During a Raid:

- You do NOT have to answer any questions.
- You do NOT have to let them in. They can only enter with your consent (this means permission), a warrant (this means permission from police), or assistant director's letter, unless the business is licensed to sell alcohol/late-night food and drink.
- Try to LEAVE if you are not under arrest.
- CONTACT: The Anti Raids Network (<https://antiraid.net/english/>)

Detention

You might be **detained** at an Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) by the authorities pending removal. The Home Office must tell you the reasons why you have been detained at the time of your detention. All IRC have a rota of lawyers – act quickly and book an appointment!

IF SOMEONE IS DETAINED, SHARE THE CONTACT DETAILS OF DETENTION ORGANISATIONS
• Bail for Immigration Detainees: 02074569750
• SOAS Detainee Support: 07438407570
• Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group: 01293657070
• To call Detention Action: 08005872096