

Question 24 (6 marks)

With reference to ONE contemporary human rights issue, explain the role of state sovereignty in enforcing human rights.

Human Trafficking is the harbouring, recruiting, transportation and receipt of people for the purpose of servitude, labour or slavery and is banned outright in Article 4 of the UDHR. Australia has used state sovereignty to ^{help} prevent illegal trafficking, particularly through its relations with South-East Asia, ~~and the~~ predominantly the trafficking of Indonesian sex slaves. Australia has also ratified the Convention to Suppress Slavery and the Slave Trade as demonstrated in the case of R v. Wei Tang, where Wei Tang was charged with five counts of possessing a slave and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment as Australia's anti-slavery laws were valid. Australia's domestic legislation such as the Crimes (Child Sex Tourism) Amendment Act has also allowed state sovereignty to play a role in enforcing human rights.

case R v. Wei Tang
Australia
ratified
slavery laws

6
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SE Asia
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illegal traffick
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sovereign!