Refugees

To apply for official refugee status you must have sponsors registered in a recognized government approved scheme.

You must speak English, be willing to learn another language – French, have no left-wing political affiliations, no relations accepted as refugees in another country.

You must be in good health, have money, clothes, practise cleanliness, use (or not use, according to sponsors' religious beliefs) birth-control; use (or not use – as above) safes to prevent the spread of AIDS. We do not as a general rule accept homosexuals.

You must be prepared to work immediately upon arrival, even if such work is menial. Forget your Ph.Ds, your professional qualifications, and start again at the bottom to get a *proper* training after work, at night school.

Forget

other family members you have left behind (remember your sponsors cannot sponsor them).

Forget all previous commitments of a racial, religious, language or territorial kind.

And be prepared to suffer prejudice as regards the colour of your skin.

If you are accepted, you cannot go on welfare for one year. But as a landed immigrant you may, one day, qualify to become a citizen.

Paddy Webb