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Magazine



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Exclusive interview Magazine



Britain opens its arms to refugees

Charities flooded by offers to house families

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Refugee charities are being inundated with offers of support from British homeowners who are willing to house families and orphans fleeing the Syrian conflict.

Offers of help have poured in from across Britain in response to the harrowing image of Aylan Kurdi, the three-year-old Syrian boy washed up on a Turkish beach this week.

"In the last few days we have received more inquiries from members of the public offering to accommodate refugees than in the last five years," a spokeswoman for the charity Refugee Support Network said.

As the migration crisis engulfing Europe escalated, David Cameron confirmed that Britain would take thousands of the most vulnerable from camps along the Syrian border. It is understood that the final figure is likely to be between 4,000 and 10,000.

The prime minister is about to reject demands from charities such as Save the Children that Britain accepts 3,000 unaccompanied children who have already travelled to Europe.

Writing in *The Times* today, Bob

Geldof, the musician and activist, urges British people moved by the plight of the refugees not to offload their response on to the anonymous state but to make a personal contribution.

"Let's put our money where our mouth is. I'll start. I'm lucky. I have a place in Kent. I will take three Syrian families into my place in the country and one family into my flat in London. They can stay there until they get set up here and get going by themselves. Anyone else? Any takers?"

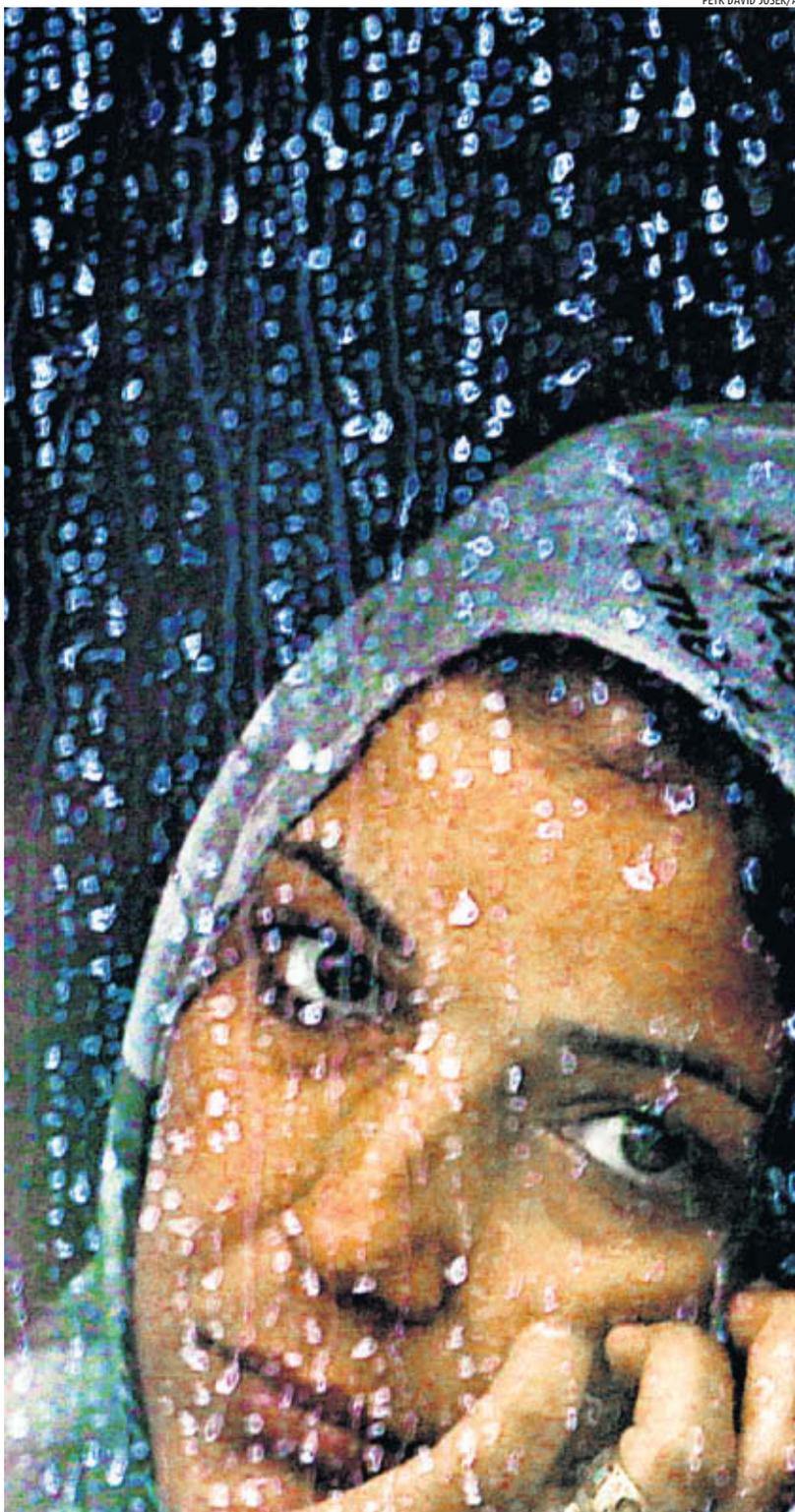
Despite the outpouring of sentiment since the publication of the photograph of the dead Syrian child, a Populus survey reveals that the country is divided over the right response.

Half believe that Mr Cameron's move to increase the number offered resettlement in Britain means that the country is meeting its moral obligations. A narrow majority, 51 per cent, do not want him to go any further.

Half support the proposal, raised by Yvette Cooper, the Labour leadership candidate, to require every city and county in Britain to take ten refugee families, a distribution that would allow an additional 10,000.

Mr Cameron speaks for almost seven out of ten when he voices fears that

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A migrant at Bicske in Hungary, where police enforced tough new measures. David Cameron confirmed yesterday that Britain would take thousands more refugees

Giles Coren

I was forced to send my child private!

Opinion



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The new social disease

Magazine



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Matt Roberts, Weekend



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