

**Submission
No 159**

COMPANION ANIMAL BREEDING PRACTICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name Suppressed

Date Received: 12/06/2015

Partially Confidential

I am originally from London and moved to Australia for a new and different lifestyle. I work in a pet store and have only recently been aware of the animal breeding practices.

All the puppies and other animals we have are from reputable and ethical breeders. I volunteered at the RSPCA back in England walking the dogs at the centre. I am an animal lover and strong believer in the welfare of animals we breed. If I had any hesitation to how the puppies are treated or looked after in my Petstore, I would not work there. However, this is definitely not the case. The puppies are incredibly well looked after with all their needs taken care off. They are cleaned regularly, socialised and are always happy, healthy puppies. I do not think the puppies would be any different coming from breeders directly. I am sure there are a lot of excellent pet stores around Australia like the one I work for.

If puppies in pet stores are banned, not only will it cause unemployment for myself and many others, it will also encourage people to buy puppies off the Internet. That in itself can create a lot of ethical and trust issues and will not stop puppy farms from existing.

With careful monitoring and regulation, I do believe all pet stores will remain ethical and a have a positive impact on the breeding industry.