

Submission  
No 787

## INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date received:** 5/11/2013

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Partially Confidential

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**To:** greyhoundracing  
**Subject:** Against Greyhound Racing

Dear Director,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into this important inquiry into greyhound racing.

I am very concerned about the treatment of greyhounds in the racing industry in NSW. I feel that current regulations allow unacceptable abuse of these beautiful dogs.

These are the main points I believe should be considered by the Committee:

1. The need for better management of the sale and over-breeding of greyhounds. The sheer number of dogs bred vs. the number that actually make it to the track is abhorrent. It is an appalling waste of life for the sake of money.
2. The need for measures, such as financial incentives, to reduce the high numbers of greyhounds euthanased each year. This may be a solution but regulation of breeding would prevent the huge numbers of dogs needing euthanasia every year.
3. Allegations of the 'doping' of dogs (as I saw on ABC). Once money is involved, all ethics goes out the window and these dogs are abused and will have anything done to make them win, and if they don't then most don't even have the grace of a humane death.
4. Concern about the welfare of animals in the industry and the conflict of interest represented by Greyhound Racing NSW's role in establishing and enforcing standards for the treatment of animals in the industry. The general standard of care in this industry is sub-standard for a companion animal. As the industry is mostly supported, and encouraged by people in the low socio-economic bracket there appears to be less incentive to maintain a single animal, and instead to constantly procure new animals in the hope of buying the winner that will make them the money to improve their circumstances. There is a distinct lack of emotional attachment to the animals, and they are seen as objects to win and are 'let go' when an injury occurs with little or no hesitation.
5. The need for prosecution where animal cruelty is found. Absolutely. Just because it's a gambling industry this does not absolve it of wrongdoing, nor lower the bar for standards of care.
6. The inadequacy and questionable integrity of data collection in the industry: including the number of pups born, the number of dogs euthanased and injury rates. The reaction most trainers give when their dogs are given 10d or more after a fall on the track is evidence that they would happily run the dog again within the week. I have no doubt they would bypass other regulations as well.
7. The ongoing export of greyhounds to countries where there are no effective animal cruelty laws, like Macau. It is our responsibility to ensure the treatment of animals bred in our country. If we are content to send animals to another country with no animal rights, why bother having them here?

I urge you to take these issues into account and I hope this Inquiry leads to strong recommendations which will improve the treatment of these dogs. I truly feel this is an industry that is sub-standard, has little monetary gain for those involved, esp for the many who never make it to the 'big races'. It is the most disgustingly wasteful industry with regards to life, and for some reason this is excusable - because it's gambling and makes money for... some people? Certainly not the racers. I feel the lack of care, empathy and standards far outweigh any gain the industry can provide to the community. I vet the greyhounds at the races because I have to, and I'd rather be there for the

dogs than not, but I have a burning hatred for the industry as it is blatantly against everything I have devoted my life to through my career.

Sincerely,