

**Submission
No 732**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Ms Candice Skelton

Date received: 5/11/2013

Dear Director,

I am writing to express my concern about the treatment of greyhounds in the racing industry in NSW. I feel that current regulations allow unacceptable abuse of these animals.

I think its unfortunate that Australia's utilitarian nature has transferred over to the treatment of other species. I think it is unfair that animals in racing industries, such as horses and greyhounds, are allowed to be bred uncontrollably purely for profitable reasons with little regard for their life. Because of this, animals are bred in excess and "put-down" if they do not meet the breeders performance requirements/expectations.

In our current era of increased awareness, I think it is about time that the Australian and NSW government steps in and addresses issues of animal racing industries, in particular, the greyhound racing industry. I believe stricter regulations need to be enforced to protect greyhounds from unnecessary abuse. These forms of abuse include: drugging to enhance performance and killing unwanted dogs through "bashing" (rather than euthanasia). I think the NSW Government should restrict the breeding of greyhounds, so that animals are not bred in excess. This would mean that only the minimal number of animals will be bred (Similar to legislation governing the use of animals for research). This would in turn mean that the numbers of grey hounds euthanized annually would be dramatically reduced. This would be ethically, morally and economically beneficial.

I don't think that any animal deserves to die, just because they cannot meet the breeders competition standards. I believe, the fact that people can legally treat animals this ways suggest that we are not an entirely advanced society and still retain barbaric ways... I think as a nation, we are better than this. And should stop the abuse of animals. By regulating the greyhound industry, NSW will be a leader in confronting animal welfare issues and set a good example, not only for other states but for other nations.

Thank you for listening to my concerns,

Sincerely,

Candice Skelton