

**Submission
No 682**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Ms Gabrielle Openshaw

Date received: 6/11/2013

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my views on the inquiry into Greyhound Racing NSW.

I am appalled at the inability of Greyhound Racing NSW to provide 'entertainment' that is fair and cruelty-free. The huge decline in popularity of the sport is in no small part due to the incompetence of the breeders, trainers, and industry officials involved who cannot, and will not, ensure the welfare of the animals they profess to love. Choosing a line of work that involves being responsible for animals means exactly that. These people are responsible. And they are failing the animals on multiple accounts. My specific concerns are the following:

(1) The ability of breeders and trainers to produce and kill huge numbers of animals, with little documentation. Every animal born into the industry should be documented, and justified. The number of animals born to each breeder should be capped.

(2) The ability of trainers and breeders to drug animals with apparent ease as officials turn a blind eye. Drugging animals in the name of sport is shocking and unforgivable, and the penalties should be severe.

(3) The lack of data kept on racing greyhounds. The number of ex-racers with ear tattoos, but are apparently unknown, is staggering. The people responsible for the existence of a greyhound should be held accountable for ensuring the animals' racing and post-racing life is safe and cruelty-free.

It is because of these reasons, I call for an end to the racing of greyhounds in NSW. The public grows evermore conscious of the reality facing these gorgeous dogs every day, and the industry could not ever expect to recover.

Regards,
Gabrielle Openshaw