INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

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As a young girl I was exposed to the world of greyhound racing through my grandfather. My grandfather was a very prominent person in the greyhound dog industry. With highly successful dogs, breeding numerous litters and training dogs for various people. Dogs were disposed of regularly and often inhumanly. As a child I saw dogs one day and gone the next. The other trainers in the community were no different. As I grew up in a small NSW town (Temora) you knew people and their business whether you wanted to or not. At the track during trial runs of dogs if they did anything slightly wrong you would hear someone in the background say "he will be taking the long walk tonight". It may have only been a maiden trial or that they didn't jump well enough. I then did work experience in the same town as a vet nurse and saw perfectly healthy and very young greyhounds brought in to be put down. I was present for one of these. As an impressionable young girl and I am sure not the only young adult exposed to the industry I am wondering what this industry is teaching youth. Since seeing first hand the industry I am passionately opposed to all greyhound racing. The industry says it isn't happening but take the money out of the races or simply have huge reduction in prize money and see what happens? None of these people do greyhound racing as a sport or for the love of an animal. The only dogs I saw treated well were if they were highly successful at winning racing and hence prize money. They were treat well but the thousands that came before them that weren't good enough were just disposed of. I am sure there must be one or two people who race greyhounds who do not fit this bill but for the age of 5 years old till 18 years of age I did not meet any of them.