

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

Submission against the continuance of greyhound racing

Thank you for the opportunity to lodge a submission regarding the Greyhound racing industry in NSW.

My objection to this industry primarily concerns animal welfare, although the negative impact it has on society with regard to social values, gambling, corruption, and doping is also of grave concern.

It is madness to try to justify any industry that intentionally over breeds, misuses, exploits and kills sentient beings in the 10s of 1000s. It is an indictment of one's ethics to try.

Overbred

The numbers speak for themselves:

- 80,133 greyhounds were born in NSW the nine year period of 2003 – 2011
 - 2,552 were registered as 'pets' as of 2011
 - 6,150 were registered as racing dogs in 2011

What happened to the other 71, 431?

They became the wastage of an industry steeped in corruption, drugs and gambling addiction.

Racing for their lives

To keep dogs lean they may be underfed and undergo hard training that often results in injuries such as broken legs, paralysis or head trauma during training or races. Because these dogs are little more than a tool to earn the owners money, treatment can be deemed an unviable expense so they are killed rather than treated and rehabilitated.

In addition, investigations have demonstrated many dogs are illegally drugged in a bid to improve race performance. Sustained use of these powerful drugs may also harm the dog's organs. Insiders say eighty per cent of trainers dope their dogs with drugs including cocaine, Viagra and EPO.

Life after racing?

The average racing 'career' for a greyhound is over by the age of three or four years. Upon 'retirement' only a miniscule number are kept on by owners or trainers as pets or adopted out. The overwhelming majority are killed.

Dogs may be bludgeoned to death, euthanased (some vets even host 'greyhound days' where they offer bulk, cheap death to greyhound trainers), dumped with their ears cut off (to remove the identifying tattoos), donated to vet clinics where they are used as clinic blood 'donors', or used for vivisection and fatal veterinary training (also unnecessary practice).

For the tiny number of dogs lucky enough to find his or her way to a good home through the woefully inadequate industry adoption program (GAP) or through the handful of independent greyhound charities – a life expectancy of about 12+ years of age is average.

Shut it down

This industry is a grubby, cruel and corrupt one. Greyhound racing offers no benefit to society. How could anything that encourages the exploitation of and complete lack of consideration for sentient beings, be anything other than detrimental to the moral fibre of our community?

It treats feeling beings as nothing more than property and discards them en-masse to terrible fates. It floods an already saturated community with more lives deemed disposable by unthinking, uncaring and selfish breeders. It burdens the good people who care for other creatures with the massively heartbreaking task of trying to save lives that shouldn't be at risk in the first place. It encourages anti-social and illegal behavior and is a hot spot for corruption (as reported here by [7.30 Report](#)). It teaches irresponsible and illegal practices to children raised around the 'sport'. It encourages gambling and the addictions associated with it.

For the animals involved, and the community in which it takes place - shut it down!