

**Submission  
No 907**

## **INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW**

**Name:** Ms Peta-Julie Akester

**Date received:** 6/11/2013

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Dear Director,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into this important inquiry into greyhound racing. I do not know if our voices will be heard, but if enough of us raise them, perhaps someone may take notice.

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 - thousands are bred each year, countless thousands are discarded as "wastage", and for such a gentle and intelligent soul this is heartbreaking.
2. The need for measures, such as financial incentives, to reduce the high numbers of greyhounds euthanased each year.
3. Allegations of the 'doping' of dogs (as I saw on ABC).
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.
5. The need for prosecution where animal cruelty is found - in all of its forms.
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.
7. The ongoing export of greyhounds to countries where there are no effective animal cruelty laws, like Macau - this needs to stop immediately, at least one dog is euthanased EVERY day in Macau.
8. The bleeding out of greyhounds at vet clinics as a form of euthanasia for donor blood, again, due to be shown on the ABC.

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 am biased, I have two rescued hounds, and if I could, I would have more.

Yours sincerely

Peta-Julie Akester