

**Submission
No 35**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

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Evidence indicates several thousand greyhounds are killed in NSW each year by the industry due to poor performance (too slow, too old, injured, etc). The national figure is closer to 20,000. Despite a program put in place to adopt out such dogs, only 300 (less than 10% of the dogs killed) were rehomed in NSW in one year.

Beyond the unnecessary deaths, there are the numerous injuries sustained by racing dogs, often resulting in trackside terminations for mere breaks. Similar atrocities occur in the horseracing industry, but that is another submission for another day.

What I have described above is established by incontrovertible evidence. However it is understood that the real figures are unreported, and are much worse than indicated above.

It is essential that an independent body be appointed to oversee greyhound racing. The comments of former auditor David Landa indicate the failings of the present system, and highlight the fact that legislative change is necessary to address this problem.

Do not ignore the concerns of the citizens of NSW. This industry is responsible for appalling practices and needs to be overhauled and thoroughly regulated.

If concerns of animal welfare are not sufficiently motivating, perhaps the criminal activity that surrounds greyhound racing, should motivate parliament to make significant changes to avoid being tainted by the same corrupt brush.