

**Submission  
No 995**

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

**Name:** Ms Gayl O'Grady

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

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Dear Director,

To whom it may concern.

I am a professional dog trainer and have been a dog lover all my adult life. I have had dogs in my home for the past 36years before my first son was born. Many different breeds, I now have two greyhounds.

My oldest is 13 years and he raced for the first 3 years, my younger Grey is 7 years and raced for almost 4 years. Both dogs were abused and are the most gentle sweet natured dogs I have ever known. Since having them I have taken a special notice of racing dogs and their welfare. I live walking distance from Wentworth park. I know there are some reputable trainers but unfortunately they are the miniority...

I work in a large Veterinarian Hospital and I do know what happens within the industry. Both my dogs are terrified of men though have learnt to trust. My youngest grey was starved when I got him. He weighed 23 kilos and now 33kilos and is very thin. I know they are only two animals but I work with many greyhounds and I know that mostly they are anxious and timid. It is their nature as a breed, they deserve to be respected as a dignified animal and protected from abuse. They love to run but not at the risk of losing their life for the sake of man's weakness for betting. There has to be legislation in place protecting these animals from abuse and injury. We protect children who can't speak for themselves, we need the same things in place for these gentle dogs who also can't speak for themselves.

Sincerely,

Gayl O'Grady