

**Submission
No 733**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Ms Katherine Springett

Date received: 5/11/2013

Dear Director,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into this important inquiry into greyhound racing.

This is a particular concern for myself, as I have been on both side and witnessed first hand the wastage and improper treatment of these beautiful animals. I have two ex-racers as pets, and every day I think of the other dogs who are not as lucky as they were.

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.
2. The need for measures, such as financial incentives, to reduce the high numbers of greyhounds euthanased each year.
3. Investigation into the doping of dogs, which I had witnessed personally, and as reported on the 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. There is a definite lack of enforcement personnel, standards and interest into ensuring these animals are cared for appropriately.
5. The need for prosecution where animal cruelty is found.
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.

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.

Please feel free to contact me, should you wish to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Katherine Springett