

**Submission
No 691**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Mrs Lynne Morton

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One of the major areas of concern in the greyhound racing industry is the overbreeding of greyhounds. Around 20,000 of these dogs are bred each year for racing, with breeding subsidies in place. Despite industry spin about welfare initiatives, there are no plans to reduce numbers bred. Consequently there is mass 'wastage', where a deplorable number of dogs are used, abused & discarded, ie killed.

These gentle loving animals are cruelly exploited for financial gain from their owners and trainers; exploiting them for their potential speed with absolutely no concern for their lives or future post-racing. There is also an appallingly high rate of injuries, unacceptable living conditions (dogs caged/kennelled for extensive periods) with dubious training methods (ie. live baiting).

There is a high incidence of doping (with minimal consequences or punishment). The cruelty shown to these animals, with the lack of accountability, responsibility and transparency is unacceptable. This industry uses clever spin to hide or deflect welfare concerns and the inefficiency of their self-regulated governance.

There is also the issue of gambling, (particularly in low socio-economic regions) where those who gamble can least afford to do so