

**Submission  
No 982**

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

**Name:** Rozanna Bozabalian

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Dear Director,

Thank you for both tabling this extremely important inquiry into greyhound racing as well as offering the opportunity to provide input into it. It is not often enough that the public's opinion is sought.

The current regulations around the greyhound racing industry in NSW are woefully inadequate. More aptly, they are both disgraceful and unacceptable.

Far tighter regulation needs to be introduced around the sale - and over-breeding - of greyhounds. These dogs are at the mercy of people who want to make a quick buck with dogs bred in appalling conditions - and I don't even want to imagine what happens to puppies not deemed "fit" to race.

Of the many problems involved with that "quick buck" is the fact that greed and the almighty dollar is the root incentive - which by default will result in dogs being grossly mistreated - particularly if they are not "winners". Or, conversely, to make them winners.

The numbers of greyhounds which die each year, either through euthanasia or "sport related injuries", be they on the track or as a result of mistreatment from their owners is simply unacceptable - and as a 1st world country with standards, one would think that tighter regulations would already be in place.

Further, there is a huge conflict of interest highlighted with Greyhound Racing NSW currently in charge of both establishing and enforcing standards for the treatment of animals in this "industry" - how is it possible that the authority that profits from this "sport" can possibly regulate ethical standards around it?

Simply put, it's not - and an external regulatory body - possibly including concerned citizens like myself - must be established. One with no conflicts of interest, and one which will include regulation over the export of greyhounds - which is akin to our abhorrent Live Export Trade which provides no consideration toward where the dogs will end up - or how they will be treated.

And finally, as in all cases, there must be tough penalties, including prosecution, in any cases of animal cruelty. We cannot function as a society while turning a blind eye to this.

I sincerely hope that this Inquiry is a true effort toward improving the treatment of all greyhounds and look forward, in anticipation, to seeing this manifest.

Sincerely,

Rozanna Bozabalian