

**Submission  
No 108**

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF BATTERY CAGES FOR HENS IN  
THE EGG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY**

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**Date Received:** 27 June 2019

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I would like to make a submission on behalf of every hen in Australia, caged and in barns that are salves to the human consumption of their eggs.

The cruelty that is involved in the egg industry is rife. It does not discriminate- though yet it does with male chicks being ground alive at birth due to their worthless genitals.

The physical and emotional toll of violence that happens to our chickens daily is not necessary, and not ok. If this were to happen to dogs, cats or our children there would be uproar. Chickens though? Our desensitisation to these animals makes it 'ok' for chickens to be ground alive, have their beaks cut off, be enslaved to produce eggs and be treated as a waste product when they are no longer useful.

Having backyard chickens myself, I have seen the incredible nature of these animals. Their social skills, their happiness when dustbathing, their fright with danger. These animals are thinking, feeling, sentient being and they deserve more.

Australia is slow in changing our ways related to animal cruelty. Banning battery hens from cages would be a step in the right direction. Banning the egg industry all together would be and should be our goal.