

Submission
No 114

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 27 June 2019

Partially
Confidential

My submission to this committee is based on nothing but compassion for other living creatures.

I have no scientific research to quote, I have no actual personal experience with battery cages hens.

My opinion and submission is built on what I have learned through the media - I have seen evidence of hens being kept in appalling conditions for their entire lives, and then when they are no longer producing eggs they are killed for other meat requirements.

I have seen photos of hens with their feathers pulled out and with their feet injured and contorted by the wire cages that they have to stand on their entire lives.

I have seen photos of hens kept in cages with no more space than a dinner plate to stand in.

I have seen photos of hens standing in their own waste.

I have seen photos of hens with terrible physical injuries that have been ignored and left untreated.

Why, in our human arrogance, do we think that an animal deserves less compassion and quality of life than any other animal, or even any other human being? It is astonishing to me that we even need to have a committee looking into this issue. To me, it should be obvious to anyone who has seen how battery caged hens are kept that it is cruel and that no animal should have to endure a lifetime of such abuse.

These hens are living their entire lives to produce eggs and meat for our consumption. The very least we could (and should) do is to ensure that the hens are kept in a comfortable, natural environment that facilitates healthy and happy hens that are cared for during their lives.

Please let us be a compassionate state. Let us set a high standard for the welfare of hens and ban battery cages for good.

Thank you,