

**Submission  
No 128**

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

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Until I owned chooks I thought they were dumb. Not so. They make wonderful pets as they have a wide range of communication from a very sweet "singing" when they're happy to a stropy sound if they're concentrating. Like all animals they socialise, love the sun and breeze, and love life. I no longer eat commercial eggs after seeing day old chicks ground alive, mechanical hens in cages and free range hens who are so crowded they can't free range. I have proved that humans are better than this. I am sixty years old & feel mid thirties since cutting out animal fats. My chooks are too old to lay many eggs and they follow me around like a dog and help fertilise my veggie garden. My cakes don't miss the eggs either and the plant based movement is a peaceful, sustainable alternative to resource guzzling factory eggs.