

**Submission
No 231**

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

Name: Dr Christine Townend

Date Received: 6 July 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have inspected many sheds containing battery cages in my life. I have noted how the hens are crawling over each other, have their beaks cut so they don't peck at each other, and I have seen piles of dead hens removed from the cages, still left dead in a pile in the shed. The hens have a quarto page of space each, and cannot fulfil any of their behavioural needs, as outlined by an inquiry by the British Parliament in 1976. They cannot escape to a quiet place to lay an egg, cannot make a nest, cannot rest, cannot groom themselves, etc.

Until and unless we lay down our weapons of war against the animals we will never have a world at peace. I believe it is the duty of humans to treat animals in their care with respect.

It is good you are having this inquiry because the vast majority of my friends want to be able to buy eggs from free range hens.