

Submission  
No 236

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 6 July 2019

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Partially  
Confidential

Dear Legislative Council Select Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to to give my response, as a member of public, to the inquiry on the use of battery cages.

**As a fellow sentient being I know cages should have never been allowed in the first place, and their discontinuation is long overdue.**

**a) Welfare.** We don't even treat the worst human criminals like this because there is **clearly** an unacceptable level of mental and physical suffering inflicted under these conditions. The ends don't justify the means, there is no justification for the continued use of battery cages.

**b) Legislative measures.** The law is there to protect all citizens, not just human ones. Our power as humans is a privilege to protect those who need our help, not a right to abuse them. If the law currently doesn't do enough to protect non human animals, then we need to change the law.

**c) The impact of battery egg producing commercial operations.** It degrades us as a society. To seek profits at the expense of animals, nutrition, our environment and the people who work and and consume these products is pure defeatism. We need to strive for the highest, not the lowest standards possible.

**d) Trends in consumer demand.** There is no doubt that battery eggs will eventually go the way of fur coats and bear baiting. It is only a matter of time as the younger generation wake up thanks to the internet and greater social conscience, not to mention plant based alternatives. I would suggest all battery egg farmers read the writing on the wall.

**e) Consumer Interests.** People who would never buy a carton of battery eggs still often consume them passively through bakery products, mayonnaise etc. I think this is something that should be revealed by the product producers and also product producers should be held responsible for substituting an alternative to eggs wherever possible (which in most cases it is). Battery eggs are not something most people would willingly consume if they saw the reality.

**g) Different farming methods.** Anytime animals are involved in a profit-driven industry, there is going to be one 'biggest loser' and that will be the animals. I realise that large scale animal agriculture is likely to continue for at least the next 10-20 years, so it is up to us to decide just how much the 'biggest losers will suffer'. Obviously the cage with its debeaking, wire floors, artificial lighting, no space, no dust bath and a crippled death at the end is pretty much the most horrific torture any psychopath could come up with.

Until broad scale animal agriculture is confined to the dustbin of the past, at least let's try an make it less gruesome for its victims.

**i) Any other related matter**

I would like to see an inquiry into the conditions of the chickens, ducks and quails who produce the **fertilised eggs for the egg and meat industry.**

**The blatant sexual assault involved in most commercial animal agriculture would be an utterly illegal and 'red flag' raising symbol of psychopathy and deviance in any other setting.**