

**Submission
No 250**

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

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I am appalled that this day and age we subject chickens to arcane and cruel practices. Are we barbarians living in the dark ages? If a human would be treated in such a way there would be public outcry. Its time to ban the battery cage forever. These birds are such sweet souls and are intelligent.

They suffer terribly with baldness, beaks cut off so they can't eat properly, having cramped conditions they develop all kinds of problems with there legs and wings. Are they afforded vet care?

Does anyone even care when some are made to live in squalid conditions and lights on. Do they ever get to eat green leafy vegetables that they love so much.

Should a battery hen make it to the other side off life where they are offered kindness, freedom to stretch their wings and dust bathe they must be kept warm whilst they grow back their feathers. They need vet treatment for worms, sometimes coccidiosis they have trouble eating properly due to their beaks being cut off.

Ex-battery hens often have bowel prolapses where their entire bowel comes out of their body. Due to their constant egg laying many develop cancerous growths which can grow to the size of softballs. This is the sad, reality of the battery cage hen.

Stepping out into the sunshine for the first time they look up at the sky wondering what that is. The flap of the wings being able to stretch for the first time in their life and running to hide under bushes. Finally being able to take a dust bath with the dirt being fluffed through their feathers and their heads turning in pure joy.

The joy of green leafy vegetables and chooks running across the yard to greet their human in time. The safety of vet care and being petted and cared for properly like any other pet.

I urge you please put yourself into the same amount of space if you think this is acceptable you won't be able to stand up properly or stretch out if you get sick bad luck no help is coming as you can see its time for change. Ban the Battery cage forever.