

Submission  
No 169

**INQUIRY INTO PROVISIONS OF THE RIGHT TO FARM  
BILL 2019**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 27 September 2019

---

Partially  
Confidential

.. Thank you for the opportunity to address this Inquiry - I must state that I am totally opposed to the tenor and extent of the proposed "Ag Gag" Laws currently under discussion. My main objection is that these laws punish the whistle blowers far more severely than those who carry out abuse of animals, which is illegal. That a factory farm or business is allowed secrecy to be able to continue whatever practices they use on defenceless animals, but the person who would expose such illegal and cruel happenings may be severely punished, is a contradiction of the highest order. It makes a mockery of the new laws just passed by your parliament which recognises the sentience of animals! If new laws against trespass on farms are introduced, then obviously the 'loss' from such trespass must be demonstrated. We already have statutes covering trespass. Why is any further legislation required? That covers equally the trespasser and the trespassed upon!! Australia is gaining a world wide reputation at present for animal extinction, for animal cruelty and for blind eyes being turned to those things. Let not this new legislation add to that reputation!!