

**INQUIRY INTO MODERN SLAVERY ACT 2018 AND  
ASSOCIATED MATTERS**

**Organisation:** Hazen Agency Pty Ltd

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Address: 608 Harris Street, Ultimo, Sydney  
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Date: 4 October 2019

To: The NSW Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Social Issues

Cc: Gladys Berejiklian, Premier NSW

## **NSW MODERN SLAVERY ACT**

We, Hazen Agency, write to you regarding the Inquiry the NSW government has asked you to undertake into the NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 (MSA) which was passed and given royal assent in June last year. This decision brought us great pride to be living in a state that was taking real steps do their part in ending modern slavery.

However, our agency wish to express our concern and disappointment that the Act did not go into operation on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July- as was planned and expected. We are truly dismayed that such important legislation has been treated with seeming disregard, particularly in view of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. It is our strong wish that the Act is proclaimed and put into operation without any further delay, and with the proper sense of urgency which this pressing humanitarian issue demands.

Hazen Agency believes in the importance of social justice. It is a fundamental human right to live free from exploitation- yet across the world, slavery is still one of the biggest forms of exploitation. And often through this corrupt system, we in countries like Australia reap the rewards of this depravity of human rights. Change needs to happen now. NSW is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the Southern hemisphere which means it has a regional and international role to play in shaping the world for current and future generations.

Our marketing agency works with War On Slavery (WoS) and fully endorse their submission which you would have received on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. We will continue to support their organisation and their objectives to end modern slavery- as should you.

William Wilberforce once said: "You may choose to look the other way but you can never say again that you did not know." We are at a critical turning point- and it is time for NSW to take action.

Yours Sincerely,

Hazen Agency