INQUIRY INTO EXHIBITION OF EXOTIC ANIMALS IN CIRCUSES AND EXHIBITION OF CETACEANS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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SUBMISSION: Inquiry into the exhibition of exotic animals in circuses and the exhibition of cetaceans in NSW.

It is shocking to me that this still occurs - lions, wild animals, monkeys, dolphins and wales - and other animals - forced to perform to amuse people!

It's disgusting.

I understand Stardust Circus currently "exhibits" four lions and six monkeys!

The lack of regulation for the treatment of these magnificent animals is almost non-existent.

They live in tiny enclosures and are constantly on the road.

Their lives are hellish - they are wild animals who should be free to express natural behaviours - they are in prison.

To make matters even worse, they are beaten and mistreated - how else are they "trained?" I could include numerous exposes that show how circuses operate.

It's no secret.

It's sadly the same with whales and dolphins.

At the so-called Dolphin Marine Conservation Park (what a sad joke) in Coffs Harbour a mother and baby dolphin died.

For what?

Their deaths were avoidable and senseless.

It's been proven that dolphins and whales suffer enormously in captivity.

They are tormented, suffer illnesses and a host of medical conditions due to their captivity.

It is time to end the cruelty and the suffering.

NSW must announce a ban on circuses and marine shows and move quickly to introduce and enforce it as soon as possible.

In the meantime, laws should be rushed into operation to improve their lives until the bans come into effect.