

Submission
No 37

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

Name: Mr Richard O'Sullivan
Date Received: 15 October 2019

Dear Committee,

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to submit my view on this matter.

I am strongly against the exhibition of exotic animals and cetaceans in NSW. These animals have been proved to be highly intelligent, self-aware and emotional. Dolphins for example have a larger brain than humans and a complex language we are still yet to understand. It has also been shown that animals kept in enclosures exhibit emotional distress, depression and reduced lifespans. In my opinion, none of this is justified for the viewing pleasure of humans.

I note that the practice of holding cetaceans in captivity is banned in several countries including Canada, UK, India and Brazil. More and more countries are joining this list. Lets not let Australia be a backward country, especially when it comes to animal welfare