

**Submission  
No 28**

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

**Name:** Louis Gauci

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Dear Sir/s

A circus environment could never meet the fundamental physiological and psychological needs of exotic animals. They are kept in cages and pens their entire lives, including during transport, unable to engage in their natural behaviour. Lions in the wild can roam vast areas, claiming territory and seeking out mates, but they can't do this while being confined to wagons or trucks for days at a time touring with a circus. Macaque monkeys, who are our close relatives and prefer to live in large mixed groups, are kept in metal cages with limited opportunity to socialize. There are simply no improvements to their housing or transport that could overcome these problems, which are inherent in a circus environment.

The majority is against locking up lions, monkeys, dolphins, and other wild and exotic animals and forcing them to perform absurd tricks in the name of entertainment.

The laws are inadequate because exotic animals and cetaceans are still permitted to be bred and exhibited by circuses and marine parks in New South Wales.

Captive exotic animals who have been denied the opportunity to fulfill these fundamental needs up until now must be provided with the highest quality care, which they desperately need, for their remaining years. **THEY SHOULD LIVE FREE IN AN ADEQUATE ENVIRONMENT AND NOT EXPLOITED AND ABUSED FOR PROFITS.**

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.