

Submission
No 13

**INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL CRUELTY LAWS IN NEW SOUTH
WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

One of the most heartless laws in the country forces people to abandon their pets. Grown men, women and children weep and grieve as they surrender their dog or cat to the pound. People seeking rental accommodation are told they have to "get rid" of their pet. It is to many a soul destroying decision, causing sorrow, anger, depression, illness--stroke or heart attack--and even suicide. There is a theory amongst some doctors that an emotional separation or loss in one's life can cause cancer. It would benefit the Government (landlords and real estate agents) to change this cruel, antiquated and uncivilised edict, as it would save a great deal of money in the country's health budget. One study found that Australian ownership of cats and dogs saved approx. \$3.86 billion in health expenditure over one year!