

**Submission  
No 66**

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

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Animals aren't here for human entertainment. It is morally wrong to imprison an animal just so humans can stare at them, laugh at them or be entertained by them. Thousands of animals are forced to perform silly, confusing tricks under the threat of physical punishment; are carted across the country in cramped and stuffy containers, are kept chained or caged in barren, boring, and filthy enclosures; and are separated from their families and friends—all for the sake of human “entertainment.” Many of these animals even pay with their lives. Dolphins are kept in tiny concrete pools filled with chlorinated water, which is incredibly unhealthy and unnatural to them. It is known that they are intelligent, social creatures and it is known that many suffer from depression and other mental issues when kept in captivity.

To even have to debate the use of animals in circuses in this day and age is unbelievable.

Capturing wild animals and forcing them to perform demeaning or dangerous tricks so a circus can make profit is just wrong. These animals are often mistreated - beaten and starved so they will cooperate,

Even under the best conditions, keeping a wild animal captive is morally wrong. Times are changing and many places across the world are banning using animals for entertainment, such as in Canada, where keeping whales and dolphins in captivity was banned this year. Many countries have banned using wild animals in circuses. Why is Australia lagging?