

**Submission
No 106**

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

Name: Ms Catherine Ward
Date Received: 15 November 2019

Submission to the exotic animals in entertainment inquiry

I do not support the use of exotic animals and cetaceans for use in entertainment. I also do not support the breeding of exotic animals and cetaceans.

Animal circuses are an outdated, archaic and cruel form of 'entertainment', countless studies have shown that life in a travelling circus cannot adequately meet the needs of exotic animals. Lions and Monkeys spend their lives in small barren enclosures, on the back of a truck or performing tricks. Its not so long ago that circuses had 'freak shows' this kind of entertainment is no longer tolerated by society and has been relegated to the past, as should circuses with animals. This does not mean the end of the circus. The circus is still economically viable without animals, Circus Oz, Cirque du Soleil and many non animal circuses continue to grow and wow audiences.

Stardust circus comes to Rose Hill every year. They use land next to Rose Hill Racecourse on James Ruse Drive. The lion's enclosure is just metres away from a six lane highway. I have been stopped at the traffic lights, looked across and have seen the lions, there is no screen or noise barrier, no protection at all. The lions are in a small enclosure, with no enrichment, the only shade is provided by what looks like a child size trampoline, which they can lie under. I am deeply saddened and distressed that lions are treated this way. I have seen the monkeys in small cages, chains around their necks, constantly pacing up and down. How can this be allowed in 2019?

This land at Rose Hill is in the Parramatta Council area of which I am a resident. Parramatta Council has a ban on exotic animals, but Stardust Circus operate here on private land. That is why we need a state wide.