

Submission
No 186

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

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

I am strongly opposed to the use of animals in entertainment. I have attended many protests at Stardust circus and witnessed first hand and up close the conditions that the lions and the monkeys are kept in and the behavioural and psychological distress exhibited by them. The monkeys pace manically in their cages, shaking the bars, banging their heads - its very distressing to watch. The lions look so completely defeated - bored with no opportunity to exhibit any of their natural behaviours. When i drove past the circus at Rosehill racecourse recently it was just a disgrace to see the lions in a makeshift pen by the side of a six lane highway - they were lying on the dirt, no shade, no stimulation and additionally the temporary fence did not look secure.

I was attending a circus protest at Bass Hill last year - we were there for the second week in a row and a woman approached us with her children, she asked to join the protest - she said that she had come last week and that her son just started crying when they bought a monkey into the ring - he was so distressed at seeing the animal forced to perform and in chains. She state dtaht she wa snew to Australia and that she thought that thsi was a thing that Australians did. She was shocked to see this type of treatment of animals in a country like Australia.

I have visited Dolphin Marine Conservation park - it is a shockingly grim, depressing place and the pools are so incredibly small its hard to believe that is actually legal to keep cetaceans in such small pools. Also there is no attempt to make the pools natural by adding sand or lagoon type features - they are like big backyard swimming pools - they are completely unsuitable to meet the social emotional and behavioural needs of cetaceans.

why are exotic animals and cetaceans still being exploited this way in australia that presents itself as a country of animal lovers. can we please join other civilised coutries and ban the use of exotic animals and cetaceans.