

Submission  
No 208

**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 believe people should think about the choices they make in regards to animals – whether it be watching animals for entertainment or about our consumption habits of animals.

In the case of the circus I want to make it clear that I am not against circuses per se. Only circuses with animals. I am sure the owners of the circus believe they treat their animals very well and they generally correct in saying they operate within the rules and regulations. But those regulations allow for a lion, for example, to have a dwelling only the size of a ¼ of tennis court. So the bottom line is that these animals are kept in captivity and transported all around the country to perform in front of hundreds of people. This is not a natural scenario for these animals and it is no wonder sometimes these animals – while treated as well as they can be in captivity – eventually turn on their owners. The animals that don't turn on their owners probably have their instincts suppressed so much that they know nothing else other than obeying their masters.

So I want the government to ask itself whether it is really necessary that the public have to see these animals in this type of unnatural environment performing these unnatural tricks. We are perpetuating a life of captivity and slavery of wild animals while it continues to be allowed.

I am also against dolphins held captive for entertainment.