

Submission  
No 243

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

**Name:** Bekki Ashton  
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Attention Portfolio Committee re use of Animals in Circus

Thank you for your time in reading my opinion, I'm a 6th Generation circus performer from the Ashtons Circus Dynasty, I grew up traveling Australia with a large variety of animals from dogs, horses, lions, tigers, Australia's only Tigons and elephants! I am an animal lover!

I believe 100% that all animals in Australian circus are cared for, their daily and future needs are met. They are happy and content which shows in the fact that they breed naturally. And should continue to do so.

I know that Australian Circus's go above and beyond to put the welfare of their animals 1st from birth, throughout their Lives and into retirement. I've personally invested many years looking after retired performing animals.

I understand people have concerns but those who do not live and breathe animals 24/7 can not and should not have an opinion on this.

Without animals in captivity there may just never be animals ever.

Please consider seeing 1st hand by visiting an Australian Circus before making a decision.

Yours hopefully

Bekki Ashton  
Representing  
Circus Joseph Ashton  
"Infamous"