

**Submission
No 53**

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

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Date Received: 2 January 2020

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the continuation of exotic animals in Australian circus. Exotic animals that are kept in circus environments are from long generational lines of captive bred animals, bred, managed and trained by professionals. To continue selectively breeding these animals is an important conservation effort as the exotics in these environments (not just circus, but zoos and marine parks also) are given optimal conditions for longevity. The breeding programs are tailored in a way that maximises genetic diversity and ensures that these exotic species (some of which are endangered in the wild) are given an opportunity to grow in population once again. Circuses, marine parks and zoos are all governed and monitored by the DPI of each state, and follow enclosure and enrichment guidelines set down by the government - I have personally read through these guidelines and I can say that these codes of practice definitely protect the welfare of the animals in captive care.