

**Submission
No 34**

**INQUIRY INTO HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF
KANGAROOS AND OTHER MACROPODS IN NEW SOUTH
WALES**

Name: Mrs Kim McDonald

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Dear Committee,

I plead for your inherent compassion and kindness as I write this submission on behalf of, in this case, the kangaroos, whose screams of pain and suffering are falling on deaf ears; babies being bludgeoned to death while their mothers die in excruciating pain that is beyond belief; beautiful, gentle, innocent kangaroos subjected to such horrific treatment at the hands of humans, that it makes me ashamed to be a part of the human race.

I could spend hours quoting figures, research and statistics, but the bottom line is clear; greed, profit, ignorance, disregard and fear have led to this heartbreaking, unjustifiable cruelty. No one was born to be cruel, no one was born to enjoy inflicting harm on the innocent and vulnerable - why would they? We were all born innocent and vulnerable, with an innate nature that is kind, compassionate and loving. Cruelty, violence and disrespect are learned behaviours; passed down from families and societal norms; not one of us were ever born to bludgeon, torture and inflict suffering on any living being.

Where can the word 'humane' be an extension of the word human? How can humanity ever justify such horrendous cruelty? How is the violent torture of our beautiful coat of arms icons, the kangaroos - or any other living animal, even be a reality, when we all know deep down it is anything but right or justifiable?

Just because humanity have lost control of their own race, and its place on this earth and let fear and greed dictate and dominate their actions, does not mean our assumed dominion over every other species gives us the right to slaughter, torture and cull every species we believe causes us inconvenience or annoyance. If humanity was wiped out tomorrow, every other species on this planet would thrive!

Using horrific things like exclusion fencing; kangaroos hanging by one leg, dying in absolute agony, slowly and painfully, is unimaginable in a so-called ethical, evolved and humane society. Why is this acceptable and ok? Because a human one day decided it was ok to inflict this gruesome death upon an innocent animal and decided to do all they could to hide the gruesome truth from the majority of kind, caring people, and justify its evil as necessary.

David Attenborough once warned that humans have 'overrun the world...adding that the actions of humanity are sending the planet into decline'. Not only are humans ruining the planet, they have consistently and appallingly exploited and abused every other species on this planet and keep getting away with it...for now. The way our kangaroos are being treated is proof of the irresponsibility and greed possessed by so many who are unaccountable for the vicious acts they are 'legally' permitted to inflict on innocent animals.

In so many ways humanity has evolved and there are luckily more good, kind people than not, but there are still so many that are more irresponsible than ever and their acts of violence against animals is unbelievably legal! Our laws make violence normal and the evidence and research tells us, that those who commit violent, cruel acts on vulnerable animals, are more likely to be violent toward their own race. How can we ever hope for a kinder world when bludgeoning baby animals to death is deemed acceptable and legal! In every way that matters, in their capacity to suffer and feel pain, to love their babies and to seek companionship and affection, non-human animals are no different to human animals. We have no right to do what we do to them just because they are presumed to be in our way. An intelligent race of people should be able to find kind alternatives and solutions.

Self-made gods with only the laws of physics to keep us company, we are accountable to no-one. We are consequently wreaking havoc on our fellow animals and on the surrounding ecosystem, seeking little more than our own comfort and amusement, yet never finding satisfaction.

Is there anything more dangerous than dissatisfied and irresponsible gods who don't know what they want? Somebody has to call this, everybody has to play a part in the creation of a just world for all. My submission pleads for you to ask yourself the question - Is torture and inflicted suffering toward any living being ok or justifiable? I think everyone knows the answer.

Please see this cruelty and end it. Please be voice for the voiceless. Please help to change the world for all living beings. Please.

Kindest Regards

Kim