

**Submission  
No 191**

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

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I am a writer and academic who has spent a long time researching kangaroos, their numbers, their natural habitat and the situation regarding their perception by commercial farmers, members of kangaroo product industries and indigenous peoples. I have done this in order to educate the next generation in a non-biased way. One thing has become clear during my research: the current situation is satisfactory to no-one and above all not to kangaroos, who appear not to have a voice in amongst the many humans speaking for them. It is therefore on behalf of kangaroos, and the next generation who make it clear to me every day how they feel, that I am completing a submission. Kangaroos are sentient beings. The ways in which they are being killed and culled in huge quantities with their being pests or the value of their skin/meat products being cited as a cause is incomprehensible. Sports shoes can be made from manifold other, alternative materials. And the conditions in which kangaroo carcasses are kept prior to being made into meat products and consumed leaves important questions remaining as to the health and hygiene of any such product. Kangaroos are a native species to Australia which humans appear to have determined has lesser worth than ourselves. That in itself is quite astonishing. Their existence is an essential part of the ecosystem and as such needs to be protected. Natural wastage through extreme weather events is designed to keep their numbers in check. I hereby submit the opinion that kangaroo culling for commercial purposes should be stopped. Where kangaroos are killed for other reasons, this should occur in the most humane way possible, as opposed to the barbaric practices currently engaged in. Kangaroos should, very simply, be accorded the same respect that is owed to all other sentient beings on our planet.