

**INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH
WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I live in the state of Victoria and am passionately opposed to puppy farming. I urge that the NSW parliament ban puppy farming and do so without delay. Every day that this practice is allowed to continue is a travesty and another day of unbearable suffering for the animals.

Victoria thankfully banned puppy farming a number of years ago. Legislative action took place after many years of public pressure from all quarters of society, reported prosecutions of puppy farm breeders and media / public exposure of many incidents and exposed examples/ reported incidents of the cruel practices and otherwise hidden aspects of puppy farming. Unbearable photos of suffering female dogs were shown that haunt me to this day.

NSW must likewise prohibit the practice as it is obscene, cruel and benefits only the breeder of puppy farming because it is a " numbers game" for them. The breeders squeeze as many dogs as they can into a limited space on their property and expend minimal expense on proper care for the adult dogs and their pups . The dogs receive minimal vet care other than the necessary injections for the puppies (in order to sell). The dogs are denied a proper animal shelter that is clean with adequate living space - the dogs are usually kept permanently in multiple numbers in inhumane crates or small internal fenced spaces within a dark shed and the parent dogs rarely if ever see daylight or are permitted to leave the shed. This shed is the parent dogs' entire life - like a battery hen .

The shed/s and practice of puppy farms is very much an " out of sight " clandestine operation involving minimal staff if any. It is very often a family run business so that no outsiders learn of the misery inside the property.

The breeder will only put down the mother dog when she can no longer care for and feed her pups - because the business is all about producing offspring, the parents are expendable. Female dogs who might otherwise suffer all manner of other serious health ailments like mange or be unable to stand properly and be in extreme pain will receive no medical treatment and are forced to continue to live in this inhumane manner. In short, the puppy farm breeder does not care about the adult dogs' pain or suffering - the dogs are out of sight in a shed that no one sees and if any government department should one day visit, they usually give prior notice which would give the breeder the opportunity to hide dogs plus there is the issue of the "grapevine" notice. I have read about and seen photos of a 4 year old small beagle like female dog on a puppy farm (in Vic) that was forced to produce multiple litters every 3- 6 months from the time she was 6 months old (which considered too young) . She was kept in a box like crate no larger 1 x1 metre in a shed - her internals had collapsed and her stomach with nipples hung to the ground and she was lying helplessly prostrate with pups scrambling over her tugging on her nipples. The poor dog was unable to walk. She was considered an expendable vehicle by the breeder. When rescued, her condition was so bad , the vets decided she had to be euthanased. This dog was unrecognisable as a 4 year old, a relatively young age for any dog . And she had known no life other than suffering in this shed and having demanding pups at her belly.

Puppy farming can be characterised as operating on a large scale at minimum cost and with no care nor responsibility. And it is not only the parent animals who suffer.

The puppies are often inbred and as a result suffer many genetic deformities that are not all apparent at the time of sale - the unsuspecting purchaser only finds out there is a problem once the pups begin to mature and then display difficulties eating or not walking properly (joint issues) or their fur falls out (mange) or they have trouble breathing (heart defects) . New dog owners naturally fall in love with their pup so they then spend thousands on a dog that is doomed to a shorter life and one of suffering from an ongoing & often incurable health condition. The dogs

are not the only ones to suffer - owners suffer with their dog - they share its pain, suffer when they have to euthanase a young dog and suffer the ongoing financial costs for what is too often a hopeless situation.

Puppy farms must be stopped for the sake of the animals and the consumer.

No amount of attempts at regulation will prevent the cruel practices of puppy farming - regulation is not the salve - it is simply impracticable .

In any event, no animal deserves this type of " farming treatment" and I seriously mean NO ANIMAL - especially the animal we boastfully call our "Best Friend" .

I speak for the animals who need to be heard but cannot speak.

Thank you for listening.