

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF PRIMATES AND OTHER ANIMALS
IN MEDICAL RESEARCH IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

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Date Received: 21 February 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

As part of my degrees (Honours/Masters) I carried out student "research" whereby, over a period of 3 years, I had to ablate the olfactory bulbs of rats before then killing them some weeks later. Hundreds of rats were involved in this and I can only imagine what the loss of their major sense was for their lives. This work/results benefitted no-one..least of all the rats who lost their lives so needlessly. At that time I don't think there were even animal ethics committees in place to review the worth of such animal torture.

Subsequent research - using primates (macaques and marmosets) was equally of no benefit to mankind (let alone the primates)!

I left the research field after this knowing that fundamentally the use of sentient animals in research involves torture of various types and/or death, and very rarely provided results which advanced our understanding of anything . Humans have justified the use of animals in many things on the basis that humans are the only sentient being and therefore it is acceptable to use animals because they don't know. I can tell you they DO! It hurtsthey feel pain, terror and grief!

How an animal ethics committee can condone a baby monkey's eyes being sown shut as a model for..? human anxiety... ??blindness...or something else ... is BARBARIC to the extreme!

Why is it acceptable to rub chemicals in a rabbit's eye or skin to see how corrosive a chemical is? How is it OK to make mice struggle to swim/stay afloat until they succumb with exhaustion in a cylinder of water from which there is no escape? It is a useless test and this has been proven.

Animals are SENTIENT and do not deserve to be used in experimentation/research!