

**Submission
No 117**

INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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I have lived with dogs all my life and anyone who has a dog knows they are intelligent sentient beings – often one step ahead of us in the games we play. They bring joy and comfort to our lives. They are loyal and devoted friends.

Yet in puppy farms too many dogs are kept like battery chickens - mere commodities used for profit and gain. They give – we take.

Dogs are held in captivity on puppy farms with no government oversight – no registration requirements, no caps on dog numbers and no litter limits – where breeding dogs can be bred from less than a year old until they can no longer physically produce any more puppies.

Why wouldn't the NSW Government protect these poor animals? Is it too much to ask? The government knows that dogs can't vote but their owners certainly can and do. The people of NSW have no tolerance for animal cruelty and are shocked and horrified to know the conditions under which puppy farms are run, as recently exposed in the media.

All breeders should be registered and all animals should have a source number for transparency and oversight.

There should be a maximum of ten breeding dogs and a maximum of two litters per female.

And there should be mandatory vet checks and minimum 1 staff to 5 animal ratios to ensure proper care. Anything less amounts to state sanctioned animal cruelty.