

**Submission
No 204**

INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Laws must be put in place to stop puppy farming.

This is a cruel and inhumane industry in which the animals are frequently denied water, food, shelter and veterinary care.

Breeding dogs are confined for their entire lives until they are no longer viable, and then usually dumped at an animal shelter or the pound where they become someone else's responsibility. I have witnessed this when volunteering at the NSW Animal Welfare League, a lot of these poor dogs had to be euthanised as they were in such bad condition. The ones that could be saved all had major dental issues as well as psychological damage due to neglect, never having been walked and socialised nor shown any affection.

Dogs in puppy farms are either kept in cages, or outdoor kennels in unhygienic conditions, with inadequate staff employed.

Puppies are taken from their mothers and then sold to pet shops or online, with the buyer never getting a chance to see the conditions they were bred in, and many being sold with underlying health issues.

Due to hard to navigate legislation and a flawed definition of what puppy farms are, they have been allowed to operate completely unregulated, with buyers being unaware of the realities of this cruel industry.

Companion animals are able to be adopted from shelters and pounds, or bought from a registered and ethical breeder (with a cap of 10 breeding dogs).

Puppy farming is all about profit with no thought about the animals in their care except for how long they can be bred for at a minimal cost - it must not continue, legislation must be introduced to stop this vile industry.