

**Submission
No 209**

INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Lyn Howells

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That we are having a discussion as to the ethics and legality of puppy farms in this state of NSW is an indictment on the authorities who have not outlawed these cruel businesses long ago. The intense farming of livestock such as chickens and pigs is a cruel practice but can be excused to some degree in that these animals are used as food but to force dogs/bitches to carry litter after litter of puppies just to make money is indefensible.

These poor creatures are often kept in horrific conditions with little or no clean bedding, no sensory stimulation, inadequate nutrition or veterinary care in order that their owners can make thousands of dollars from their misery. The people who operate these hell holes, for that is what they are if you are a dog confined to an existence in a puppy farm, are able to sell puppies, some of them too young to be separated from their mothers on such platforms as Gumtree and Facebook's Marketplace by circumventing the weak rules and regulations claimed to prevent such practices by these organisations. Unfortunately, people either aren't interested in or are too ignorant to ask pertinent questions as to the dog's provenance and are taken in by the fact that it simply looks cute and are willing to part with large sums of money which only prolongs this cruel and heinous trade. While I have no sympathy for those who buy their pets, be they dogs, cats, rabbits etc. from unscrupulous breeders they too are being exploited by these people: the puppy is not the true breed claimed by the breeder and it often has genetic health/dental issues, the consequence often being that the dog is either dumped, surrendered or put down as the new owners are either unwilling or unable to pay the hefty vet bills they incur.

Members of this Committee would all declare themselves to be animal lovers I am sure and many probably own a companion animal. I find it hard to conceive that they would condone the continuing practice of puppy farming when they go home at night and look into the eyes of their loyal dog and consider that their much-loved pet could have either come from a puppy farm or suffered the fate of a captive of this abominable trade.

Victoria and Western Australia have already banned the barbaric practice of puppy farming NSW now has the opportunity to show itself to be equally caring and in that spirit I humbly beg you to PLEASE BAN PUPPY FARMING!!!