

**Submission  
No 915**

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

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I wrote a whole heap of stuff which pulls on the heartstrings which you can read if you scroll down. But that is not what decision-makers want. They want a cost/benefit analysis. Unfortunately it seems a life in this current society is not worth very much.

If the dog breeding industry was regulated, we could:

- collect registration fees and taxes from dog breeders without having backyard breeders selling for cash
- create jobs for inspectors to audit registered facilities
- balance supply/demand reducing the number of unwanted dogs in shelters
- restrict breeding of undesirable characteristics such as pugs and French Bulldogs
- significantly improve welfare of animals involved
- restore some trust in NSW government following greyhound and horse racing debacle

Gandhi said "the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

I am severely disabled with MS. I am in a wheelchair and predominantly housebound. My body is my prison. I have chronic pain, fatigue and brain fog. Given all of that, I am still in a better place than a puppy mill dog.

I can get out of my house maybe once a week. Puppy mill dogs can't.

My house is kept clean and I have access to appropriate food and water. Puppy mill dogs don't.

I have adequate medical care. Puppy mill dogs don't.

I am shown love and am valued. Puppy mill dogs aren't.

I have enough social interactions to maintain my mental health. Puppy mill dogs can't.

I am not forced to have children again and again and again until I die. That is the lot of a puppy mill dog.

How do we know that dogs can think and feel?

When my dog comes across the room, rolls over and exposes her belly, she has had the thought "I would like my belly rubbed". She knows that she can come to me (not the sofa), that I will understand her request and that I will get the job done and she can anticipate the pleasure of having her belly rubbed. She can think and she can feel.

If my dog can think and feel somewhat similarly to me (although on a different level), I can also demonstrate my empathy by imagining what dogs go through when part of a backyard breeding business.

Imagine being a worker in the dog shelter. You are trying to rehome these dogs that no one wants. Every week, you personally have to pick 20 dogs to euthanise. You need to get them from the kennel, put them on the table, draw the drug into the needle, insert the needle in the vein, pat the dog for a minute until they fall asleep. You watch them until they die and then you update your notes. You pick up the still warm body and put it in the bin.

This wouldn't happen to such a huge extent if dog breeders were regulated.

If dog breeding was regulated, we could limit oversupply of puppies.

If dog breeding was regulated, we can ensure dogs have appropriate homes and access to food and water.

If dog breeding was regulated, we could make sure they had access to vet health checks.

If dog breeding was regulated, we could limit the number of litters one female could produce.

Consider how you would feel if your dog was stolen for use as a breeding dog. Caged. Limited food and water. No social interaction. No future. No hope.

Regulation would stop all of that. Problem sorted. Easy.