

**Submission
No 301**

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

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Date Received: 4 March 2022

I still shudder at the time I went around the exhibition of retailers of animals for experimentation. Stands advertising rhesus monkeys - macaques, chimpanzees. I calmly asked the question. " where do the animals come from" they told me calmly that some are bred but breeding takes so long that often they come from the wild. Animals trafficked legally from the forests or worse covering illegal trade and trafficking for pets, medicine etc under the cover of "research". They may no longer have a forest to live in. From there they are administered pain relief or anaesthesia as injuries are inflicted upon them. But how suffering be known for they cannot speak but can we not assume they suffer as much as we do if they are such a good model.. Locked behind bars they await the next round of torture and see the results of what happens to those sentient beings around them. The people who are around this kind of experimentation are hard, soulless people who justify their actions on the basis that humans suffer more. How can we measure that? That was when I was 19 - I went on to medical research in a lab in virology the woman next to me injected viruses into the abdomen of mice that swelled to three times the size. A giant needle sucked the fluid from their abdomen. At some point their heads smacked on the edge of benches - a good way to die. The day old chicks were blended alive for cells - what did they feel? All primates that are experimented on are killed. Some suffer more than others. As our closest living relatives we need to consider the movie planet of the apes and ask ourselves the question about suffering. Human beings are not worth this cost. We should not be using animal models any more. We most definitely should not be using primates. Our lack of compassion as humans, as regulators, our disassociation with suffering leads to a lack of empathy - a human self righteousness that does not fit with a humane and compassionate society. We inflict suffering on primates like mid last century Britain. All of those animals die. If you are not feeling this compassion then there is something wrong with you. You have been desensitised by what you see, have followed established norms.

It's simple stop it . My experience was 30 years ago. Seriously how can it be that humans are so smart yet so retarded to progress towards a more human society?