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

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Submission: Enquiry into the use of primates and other animals in medical research

I call on the Federal Government to stop all forms of animal testing. I and many, many others believe that animal testing cannot be ethically or morally justified under any circumstances. There is never a legitimate reason to inflict suffering on animals. Carrying out testing on animals for the benefit of human beings is cruel and completely unnecessary.

This is the 21st century and there are alternative methods for testing the safety of drugs and other substances used for health, biological safety and commercial purposes. The Replacement method which avoids or replaces the use of animals for testing purposes can and should be used at all times.

Millions of helpless creatures are subjected to lives that they were never intended to live. They are never able to experience what life should be like for the particular species of creature they are. Many are bred specifically for testing, confined to cages and laboratories, exposed to horrendous procedures and conditions and are never able to express or live according to their natural instincts.

This is a heartbreaking state of affairs. Animals are sentient beings that are able to perceive and feel. They are not dumb, unfeeling or indifferent on any level.

Furthermore, a very high percentage of testing that is carried out on animals fails and does not result in successful human treatments. This means that animals are suffering needlessly for the sake of scientific experiments of no value.

Please stop this awful practice for the benefit of all creatures and for the benefit of the human race. The creatures that we have been given dominion over have a special purpose to fulfill on this planet. Our care for them is paramount to our own health as a species. The word "Humane" can never be applied or used to condone testing on animals under any conditions or circumstances.