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**From:** Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture  
[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, 20 July 2019 11:24 PM  
**To:** aglawsinquiry  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture

Mrs Nicki McLennan  
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**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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As a primary producer in both Victoria and Queensland, I was personally disappointed and horrified to see how the issue of stealing animals and trespassing on farms has been dealt with through the legal system.

I think the actions of a small number of people highlight how social media can be used to undermine family farm businesses and the confidence in the Australian farming system both domestically and internationally.

I think genuine concerns for animal welfare can be dealt with in a more mature and less sensational manner. I think it is the role of Governments to provide the policy and legislation to protect both animal rights and the rights of farm businesses and I believe the Australian state legislation does this. But the court system needs to enforce it.

I was very distressed to see what happened in my local community with the Gippy Goat Cafe and the punishment handed out by the court system to the offenders. This result puts all farm businesses at risk.

I think the Biosecurity and market access risks farm incursions create go well beyond any potential benefit to animals and put our world class national industries at risk. I hope this royal commission understands the need to uphold small businesses rights to operate a legal business and to feel safe doing so.

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File1:

File2:

File3:

