
Thank you for the opportunity of making a submission on Animal Rights Activism.

Committing animal cruelty is a crime. Reporting of that crime is not a crime.

Australians all have the RIGHT to know exactly where their 'food' comes from and how that 'food' is treated, kept, grown etc. It is OUR RIGHT to know exactly what we are eating!

Our Government is doing it all it can to prevent the Australian public knowing about the extreme cruelty that happens daily on most farms in our country.

Animal Activists have been directly responsible for exposing the following industry-standard atrocities (*to name just a few*), which otherwise would still be a shocking, shameful secret:

- Greyhound live baiting
- Live export
- Gas chambers for pigs, 'spent' egg-laying hens, and 'unviable' broiler chicks
- Male chicks ground up alive in the egg industry because they can't lay eggs
- Male calves in the dairy industry slaughtered because they can't produce milk
- Regular failure of stunning methods
- Mutilations without anaesthetic or pain relief
- Prolonged confinement in battery cages, farrowing crates and sow stalls

Laws that protect companion animals do not protect farm animals. Much of the animal cruelty occurring every day across Australia is entirely legal, but the general public is largely ignorant of this fact.

Politicians generally, like much of the public, are unfamiliar with the nature of Australian animal farming and slaughtering. It should be mandatory for any politicians having input into legislation that affects animals to first inform themselves by watching the Australian documentary Dominion:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQRAfJyEsko>

After decades of investigations, uncovering hundreds of acts of extreme cruelty, almost no prosecutions or repercussions have ever been imposed on the perpetrators. The Department of Primary Industries or equivalent in each state has the conflicting responsibilities of monitoring animal welfare and ensuring business prosperity; it is, in effect, an industry that regulates itself.

If animal cruelty/abuse were illegal and regulated, and the industry transparent and honest, there'd be no need for animal activists to capture footage inside farms and slaughterhouses.

In over 40 years of activists filming inside farms and slaughterhouses, there has not been a single activist-related incident of a bio-security hazard, violence towards farmers or workers, or entry into private homes. Activists are non-violent and have no interest in the homes, families or personal lives of farmers or workers. Factory farms are plagued with mice, rats, birds, bugs, and all manner of disease-carrying wild animals/insects - they are not bio-secure environments.

For our Prime Minister Morrison to call peaceful activists 'terrorists', when they are simply trying to stop, and expose, extreme animal cruelty, is an unforgiveable slur by him and shows just how much he wants to cover up the cruelty in the footage filmed by brave activists.