

From: [Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture](#)
To: [aglawsinquiry](#)
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture
Date: Thursday, 1 August 2019 6:24:24 PM

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



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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To the Parliamentary Committee regarding the Inquiry Into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture.

I am writing to express my opposition to this motion.

I believe the media has created a stir with false information, stating "farmers are frightened for their lives and the lives of their families". I do not believe this to be true, as to date there have been no recorded circumstances where activists have gone anywhere near the private homes of farmers. Activists are going to intensive farming practices where factories of thousands of animals are held in abhorrent conditions. The homes are kilometres away from these filthy sheds.

Activists have never intended to incite violence, and they are paramount to discovering and sharing the conditions these animals are in. The industry refuses to be transparent and hides the condition animals are in so consumers do not realise what they are paying for. CCTV cameras are now compulsory within slaughterhouses in England, Scotland and France and as they are being transparent there is no reason for activists to enter these facilities, however Victorian and Australian farms seem to be going in the opposite direction. The CCTV cameras should be installed in factory farms and slaughterhouses first, at least. In history activists and whistleblowers have uncovered many acts of animal cruelty which the public have been thankful to know of, including live baiting in the greyhound industry and the abhorrent conditions in live export ships. I hate to think of a world where this cruelty can continue because activists and whistleblowers cannot do their job.

Lastly I would like to touch on biosecurity. There have been no incidents of animal rights activists causing biosecurity risks in Australia. There have been, however, many incidents of disease outbreaks caused by intensive animal agriculture. These factories are plagued with rats, mice, maggots, birds, feral cats and every other disease vector imaginable. Animal rights activists have always worn bio-secure clothing and complied with the Livestock Disease Control Act 1994, Livestock Management Act 2010 and the Prevention

of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986.

Thank you for your time,
Regards,
Megan Garside.

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File1:

File2:

File3: