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

Miss Jessica Mateljan
[REDACTED]

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Hello,

Firstly, thank you for providing a platform for people to express their views.

I am writing to plead that animal cruelty is taken seriously, & that activism is something that is not only allowed, but also accepted. Without animal activists, animal cruelty within slaughterhouses will go unnoticed. I believe the term 'live stock' honestly is enough to make someone think. Breaking it down, it refers to stock that is alive. Some definitions that show up on google of 'Alive' are 'Living, not dead' & 'Alert & active'. Animals are alive, they breathe, they bleed, they feel. If someone kicks a dog you can see the dog cower/run/become afraid. Where do we draw the line between a dog & a cow?

It has been proven again & again that animals feel emotions - they feel pain, love, hunger, happiness. In the animal agriculture industry, what is done to animals would be considered the most horrific crime against humans. They are sexually abused (imagine a woman in their shoes) & artificially inseminated solely to suit the dairy industry. They are neglected, left in small cages, out of sunlight, in their own faeces & urine. Did you know that mother pigs are kept in a cage that doesn't allow them to get up, so that they remain laying for their babies to drink? 24 hours, 7 days a week. Animals, living breathing beings, are treated like they are a commodity (because that's how we label them), I have seen videos of workers physically abusing animals, whether it be punching, kicking, whacking them with objects, or physically picking the animal up & smashing it on the floor. I have seen footage of animals suffering with injuries, extreme sickness & neglect, with nothing being done.

Then, slaughter. These animals do not want to die. They fight, they try to escape, they cry - their body language shows how afraid they are. They are terrified. The words 'slaughter' & 'humane' cannot be used in the same sentence. There is no such thing as killing humanely. They get a stun gun to the head which they feel, they get their throat slit which they feel, they get gassed which they feel (they scream & shudder), they get electrocuted which they feel, they get boiled without checking if they're still alive. Please put yourself in their position. Put your dog in their position. Pigs are smarter than dogs.

I am pleading you to think of each individual that is born into this world solely for the purpose of dying. Please consider the suffering & pain they endure. Animals are unable to voice how they feel, how much pain they are in, how much they suffer. It is through activism that these animals have a voice. A world without activism, is a world that has chosen to turn a blind eye to the horrors of an industry that marginalises basically all other species except humans.

Please allow activists to continue to expose the atrocities that occur behind closed doors. I am terrified of what will happen if this bill passes.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,
Jessica

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File1:

File2:

File3: