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

Miss Jessie Mullins-Baker

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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To whom it may concern,

Activists have been directly responsible for exposing the following industry-standard atrocities (to name just a few), which otherwise would still be 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 anesthetic 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.

- 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 Dominion.

- After decades of investigations, uncovering hundreds of acts of cruelty, almost no prosecutions or repercussions have 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.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jessie Mullins-Baker

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File1:

File2:

File3: