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From: Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture
Sent: Thursday, 4 July 2019 1:50 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

Ms Linda Willcox

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I wish to make a submission in support of the whistleblowers who have exposed unlawful animal abuse in farmers and slaughterhouses.

Without this exposure, these practices slip under the radar, leaving the general public none the wiser. People have the right to know what goes on behind closed doors instead of being fed fairytales of how much farmers love and care for their animals and how animals in slaughterhouses are treated 'humanely' - the almighty dollar rules in this industry, not so called 'welfare'.

'Livestock' are just that: living, breathing and feeling beings who deserve respect and kindness, not exploitation and abuse.

Footage of lambs, pigs and calves being kicked, beaten and laughed at by slaughterhouse workers, whilst fighting for their lives; farm animals kept in squalid conditions, such as pigs and chickens from 'RSPCA approved' facilities who are covered in their own waste in crowded conditions; inadequate bedding, space to move and enrichment to stave boredom; and inadequate veterinary care is evident and wide spread, as seen in the widely shared footage shown.

The latter may be legal, however much of it is unknown to the general public, who believe that labels such as 'RSPCA Approved', 'organic', 'humane' and 'free range' mean that the products they purchase, are exempt from the above.

The animal agriculture industry must be held to account and must demonstrate full transparency in what they do. If they have nothing to hide, then these whistleblowers would not exist.

Thank you for your time,

Linda Willcox

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File1:

File2:

File3: