

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture  
[REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 7 July 2019 6:25 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

Miss Siobhan Paul

T: [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

--

I write to express my concerns regarding the potential forthcoming dismissal of the value of continued animal rescues and work of whistleblowers exposing animal abuse in Victoria's factory farms. Having been a vegetarian, animal lover and animal rights advocate, who thought that I knew all there was to know about practices in animal agriculture, it wasn't until I moved here to Australia from the UK last year that my long-held beliefs about trust in legalised animal welfare practices changed. Change happened when I was fortunate to encounter some very passionate educational outreach volunteers in Melbourne, who were sharing footage from inside Australian factory farms with the public, raising awareness of the legal practices in the industry. From seeing the footage, I began to realise that not all killings were 'humane', from the one that turned me vegetarian many years prior. In this footage I saw cattle lined up awaiting their fate, with no where to escape as their natural instinct, with the killing of the others visibly before them. I recall seeing another individual attempt to leap from the carriageway in a desperate attempt to run to safety. It was in these moments of watching this footage that I became aware of the true suffering that occurs for sentient animals in animal agriculture and since have turned vegan - if it wasn't for the work of whistleblowers I would be unaware of these atrocities, which I, as a consumer and animal lover, should have always known. I greatly thank these individuals for their bravery in sharing the footage with the public and strongly believe that the public would also appreciate knowing where their food comes from too so that they can make informed choices that align with their moral values.

From my experience I would like to highlight the importance of watching multiple slaughterhouse footage videos during the inquiry, such as the one below, since there is more than one way a sentient animal to experience their suffering. It is through watching these videos that we can truly understand why animal whistleblowers and rescuers are preferring to risk their own liberties to protect animals from cruelty.

[REDACTED]

These animals deserve to be protected under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, like our companion animals. Now that the footage of inside factory farms is available, passionate animal lovers will continue to want to seek justice for the sentient animals confined to a life of suffering. In order for progress to be made

which satisfies a growing public interest in animal welfare, adjustments should be made to industry practices that can validate animal protection, rather than criminalising those who seek to rescue the most oppressed individuals in our society. One recommendation is the use of CCTV in slaughterhouses. As mentioned, I have previously emigrated to Australia, when I came here I was very surprised and disheartened to learn of the current legalised standards in Australian animal agriculture, compared to that in the UK. One of the most important considerations which has had significant improvements to the welfare of farmed animals in the UK is the implementation of CCTV in ALL slaughterhouses. If this was to be implemented in slaughterhouses and farms across Victoria, mistreatment of animals could be monitored, for instance, to reduce the following from happening (as reported widely across Victoria's media in June 2019): <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-06-18/chicken-video-footage-victorian-poultry-farm-under-investigation/11221398>

Thank you for considering my submission.

Kind regards.

--

File1:

File2:

File3: