

## RE RSPCA VICTORIA INQUIRY

I am writing today to express my concerns for the direction the RSPCA (Victoria) is taking. They are meant to be the forefront for animal protection and welfare, yet appear to be taking on more and more of an activist role- becoming involved in misleading protests against lawful activities such as greyhound and horse racing, and hunting activities. Whilst I believe they should be having a presence at these events, to ensure the activities being undertaken are in line with the legislation, the role of the RSPCA is not to lobby against such activities.

I am a member of Dogs Victoria and a registered breeder with the aforementioned organization. A symbiotic relationship with the RSPCA and what is the premier organization for dogs in our state should be a given, instead our members come up against resistance when trying to work with the RSPCA when dogs of specific breeds come into the pound system. There is a ready and willing network of breeders to help rehabilitate (if necessary) and find appropriate homes for these animals, who have a wealth of knowledge behind them and the dogs best interest at heart, saving space and money for the RSPCA, yet it is very rare to have them work with us towards a better solution.

Instead the RSPCA seems to take the significant money received from both the government and generous general public, and use it to further their advertising campaigns, their lobbying against lawful animal activities, and multi million dollar executive suites rather than looking after the voiceless animals in their care.

Nikola James