

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of students and staff at the University of Western Australia,

draws the attention of the House:

'Ag-gag' laws are laws designed to deter activists and journalists from documenting the suffering of animals on factory farms. 'Ag-gag' laws permit and condone a culture of secrecy by punishing whistle-blowers rather than the perpetrators of animal cruelty. The laws are unfair on consumers, whose understanding of where their food comes from is obscured by 'ag-gag' laws. Surveillance creates transparency and promotes public awareness and thus should not be curtailed. We, the undersigned, do not support the introduction of 'ag-gag' laws.

We therefore ask the House:

Please do not enact 'ag-gag' laws in Australia.