

I've been to a number of events over the past couple of years to educate myself on the Live Animal Export situation so I can make an informed view of this trade. As well as Animal Welfare organisations, I have heard talks from the Meat Traders Union and cannot believe that the government would allow our livestock to be sent away for such a horrific fate when meat workers here do not have enough animals to process in the abattoirs and jobs are being lost. The solution is staring you in the face Australia, it just needs a Government with enough guts to make it happen and put an end to the Live Animal Export trade.

A few months ago I took a river cruise with my mother-in-law who was visiting from the UK. The captain of the cruise pointed out a live animal export ship in the Port of Fremantle and my mother-in-law actually thought it was a joke. She could not believe, in her own words 'that something so inhumane was taking place in such a civilised country'. This is an average tourist who will take this news back to the UK about how behind the times Australia is with important, current issues such as animal welfare.

I feel very fortunate that I was overseas on holiday when the Four Corners report was shown so didn't see it, but I've certainly heard enough about it to know that if I had seen it, I would have had nightmares for the rest of my life. It is not enough that we compromise on this. It must be stopped once and for all.

Australia's Government should be ashamed of itself if it does not put an end once and for all to the despicable live animal export trade.