

I have worked in the animal industry for most of my life. I am a qualified vet nurse and Zoo keeper. My special interest is in animal behaviour and enclosure design. I have been to Germany and have done an elephant training management course over there to learn more about their behaviour. We learn how to transport and restrain elephants in crushes. Needless to say the elephants are doing better than our cattle. Who ever built and designed the trip box needs to go back to Uni and first learn about the animal they are designing things for. Even if I tried I could not come up with a worse idea. What I seen on four corners Monday night was the worst acts of animal abuse I have even seen in my life. I am not an animal welfare extremist but this has to stop. There is no way we can oversee what goes on over there and nor can we do anything about it. Once they leave the ship they are no longer under our jurisdiction. I feel so strongly about this my life has been put on hold until it's stopped. I can't live in a country that is presented with such horrible abuses of our cattle and does nothing to stop it. We in fact send over more and our PM has nothing to say about one of Australia's biggest petitions.

I went to the show not long ago and the farmers were all so proud of their animals. We can't have them live a life of peace on our farms and then send them off to die like this. It is a different culture over there and they have a different respect of animals. We are big meat eaters but I think you will find most people care very much about how our livestock live and die before they end up as dinner. My partner's dad is a sheep farmer and he is tuff. This has got him furious and left my partner who grew up on a farm who is now a miner throwing things around the house saying he was going over there to cut off their b----. If they want our quality of meat then they will have to accept it chilled or go without. I think the public would even be happy to help build more slaughterhouses and create more jobs here. Cattle have been with us since we arrived on boats. They give up a lot of themselves for us and I think they deserve to die a better death than this. We don't treat our animals like this so please this must stop. I would like to see all abattoirs have periodic animal welfare undercover checks done by the organizations involved. If we are going to eat them then we must make sure they live a good life and die with respect and die in the most humane way possible. Temple Grandin is one of my all time heroes. We should get her out here and ask for her help in designing some new abattoirs. I will do anything to help for free. The cow at the end of the show won't leave my mind nor will he let me sleep. Standing there shaking watching the other cows be butchered and screaming knowing he will be next. Scientific fact that he is able to feel fear and has the ability to know what he was about to go through. We can do better than this Australia.

Tammy Mc Gaw