

Gaye Crawford



6th July, 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to submit this submission into the Investigation of the Live cattle trade to Indonesia and regards to live export of all animals in general.

The Government over the years has been unable to control the inhumanity that has been inflicted on our agricultural animals that have been sent overseas. In 2006 the Government was forced to ban the live trade of sheep and severely limit the amount of cattle sent to Egypt after allocations of animal cruelty. This situation can never be controlled as we are seeing it again in the Middle East with our sheep and our cattle in Indonesia. Even with our best of intentions. As these countries are of difference than us and hold animals in a different perspective. And they believe that their behavior towards these animals is OK as we keep sending them.

The Meat and Livestock Association have known of problems for many years and have DONE NOTHING. Also the Livecorp have admitted knowledge of these practices and have DONE NOTHING. How can they ever be trusted Again. Eye gouging, legs broken, 11 or even 30 cuts to the throat . Tails broken, dismembered while conscious. Whipped, thrown to the ground and legs tied. Just to name a few practices.

This cruelty inflicted by Indonesia is far crueler than what Egypt has ever committed.

Live cattle exports equal Australian job losses and a threat to Australia's capacity to supply the growing world demand for beef. Qld cattle are being exported to Indonesia taking with them lost processing opportunities in Qld.

Live cattle exports have meant loss of jobs for Australia abattoirs workers. 36,000 workers.

The sheep trade if stopped would not have much impact on farmers, minimal as long term benefits for farmers would be through them being processed in Australia by the investigation from the ACIL Tasman.

The evidence is very clear that we cannot ever have complete control or say into the wellbeing of these animals once they leave our shores. And really do we have the right.. But we do owe these animals, kindness and humanity as we have put them into this very vulnerable situation.

As Australia we have the right to end this trade under humanity. As Animal welfare can never be changed in Countries that have no laws or justice system for the treatment for animals. There is no law to bring these people who committed these cruelties to justice nor ever will be.

We cannot just look at the money side of this. This trade is CRUEL, HORRIFIC, GRUESOME AND TOTALLY UNNECESSARY.

It is a trade that we can never control for our animals as has been proven time and time again.

Yours sincerely
Gaye Crawford