

Hello,

I would like to see the live export trade brought to an end permanently, due to the serious animal welfare concerns. I am certain that the welfare of the animals cannot be guaranteed once they leave Australia. I am also aware that many animals die on board the ships to various countries.

The idea that animals should be sent on ships, sometimes for weeks on end (3 weeks to China for example) is extremely unethical and cannot be justified.

Animals suffer on ships as they are unable to express their natural behaviour. They are not in a normal environment, being cramped together on board a moving vessel. They do not have their normal diet, being fed dried food and pellets.

Surely it is obvious that animals do not belong on ships being sent to various countries which have no animal welfare laws – China, Indonesia, etc.

Many years ago, the slave trade was seen as acceptable. It was a billion dollar industry. As people became aware of it and the conditions on board the ships, etc. they realised the entire concept was horrific and many campaigned to stop it.

I see no difference in the way we are treating these animals, except that they have no voice to explain what they are suffering.

Therefore myself and many others are speaking for them, and asking you to end this trade – just as New Zealand has done, and just as any caring, advanced and progressive society should do.

It's time to end this disgraceful practice. Bring back the jobs to Australia and have these animals slaughtered in controlled and regulated conditions.

We cannot control what happens in Indonesia. Education is the key to bringing about a respect for animals, and I would stress that education is one aspect where we can help. But to send our animals there to suffer is completely unacceptable.

The cattle industry will no doubt have lobbied hard to have this continued and try to justify it, just as many fought hard to justify the slave trade in previous years.

Our conscience should be clear on what is acceptable. Mistreatment of animals is never acceptable to justify making a profit. That is a certainty.

Please make the right decision on this, and end the live export trade.

Regards , Janet Collinson