

Submission
No 309

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF CAT POPULATIONS
IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

The welfare of all animals is important. Cats like any other animal deserve to be treated kindly & humanely. I believe there are many humans out there that dislike cats & would like a complete ban on cats which is not only unfair to another living creature but inhumane. More often than not it's humans who are responsible for cats & other animals being dumped & ending up as strays or wild or they're mistreated & not cared for properly often abused & living in appalling situations. Being a cat owner myself I am aware cats actually can live happily indoors as long as they're well taken care of & have things to play with & for exercise & like any domesticated pet they need attention & affection. I think at least a curfew for cat owners could be a good idea only allowing cats outside during the day during certain times & cats having to be inside at night. Firstly because cats hunt more at night whilst birds are nesting & nocturnal wildlife emerge & cats seem to roam more & get into fights at night more than during the day, this has been my experience over the past 35 years I've had cats. Other issues such as private breeders over breeding to gain profit from kitten sales needs to be stopped as it only creates more animals which can end up dumped or mistreated. Rescue groups & other similar organisations are constantly overwhelmed with unwanted cats & dogs who need homes. Lastly pet owner education is key. I agree with current microchip & pet registration laws but think tougher rules with pet ownership need to be implemented such as mandatory desexing & tougher laws for selling kittens & puppies in pet shops & private breeders such as incorporating desexing, worm & flea treatment & microchipping inclusive in price when purchasing a pet. If these things are made mandatory & breeders have to be registered & follow rules it will no doubt help improve things & mean enforcing these laws & rules will be easier as people can report concerns etc & matters can be followed up on by appropriate authorities. I hope my submission helps to ensure a happier & healthier future for cats they are special creatures.