

Submission
No 424

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

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As I sit here with two young children aged 5 and 1, I also sit here with 6 cats aged 9 to 5.

I could write a novel but I will keep it short. I personally have caught, rehomed, desexed (with my own funds) and help from organisations with desexing grants over 50 cats.

After all my hard work, being driven by emotional guilt and sadness to watch the suffering of kittens and underweight, starving, flea infested mothers, I realised the problem is bigger than the local councils etc as they had been contacted and because there are no laws etc etc they can not help.

I am an animal lover but I am also realistic and sadly have the expertise to know this is not a one step problem. I am hoping to devise a plan that can slowly depopulate feral cats in urban areas.

People see what I saw, the utter disarray, the sadness. TNR works but doesn't not delay the suffering of the sicknesses of the cats that have FIV or an infestation in fleas, which leads to worms and the worms eat the cats to death from the inside out. I have unfortunately experienced this.

I believe the solution can be treated in a very humane, cruelty free manner, I've seen the government has offered money for clinical trials into sterilisation that hasn't succeed, I've seen rescues that are inundated and the emotional affects on vets as they turn people away to the pound, knowing the fate of the cat/kitten.

So what's the solution? Understanding the problem!

If something has been swept under the rug for an extended period of time, one has to question whether a new rug would be more cost affective then dealing with years of dirt to clean.

Just like dogs, you can't blame cats for the irresponsibility of the owners, I know the law practically states they are a possession just like a chair or a wallet.

Which is why the hope situation is a mess.

The suffering has to end, the cruelty.

If the government wants the problem fixed the government must build a facility, with regulated bodies and stop relying on rescues whom make up their own rules and regulations. Not all rescues do the right thing and the cats would be better off being PTS then prolong the suffering of being sat in a rescue for years.

The law is mostly based on rehabilitated for humans and we all know someone who does not deserve or is inadequate of that such as murders and child molesters but they are considered. How can such care and understanding be reached for such monsters but no one can find a heartfelt way to protect the innocence of suffering babies and mother cats. As a provider to my children, I have an unwritten moral obligation to any parent, man, woman, cat, dog to silently respect and understand the struggles, we all love our kids, our kids will always be the best to us and we will fight to the death for them as will these cats. Compassion and action is needed and it is needed 10 years ago.

Stop the suffering, stop breeders breeding for one year! That's a start. Bring in jail time for animal abusers, multiple studies have shown, they are more likely to be able to perform these acts on human beings after doing it to animals.

Please for the love of god, help the helpless. Be a voice for the voiceless. Be a voice for this crazy cat lady, that grew up hating cats and found herself just trying to do the right thing morally, as we are all gods creatures.

Although everything must be in writing, the most valuable solutions can come from a small voice conversation.

Please call if you'd like a real insight of the on ground situation.

I hope this reaches someone with the same headspace as me,we shouldn't have problems we should only have solutions!

Thank you