

LIVE EXPORT

Live export has been debated for far too long in Australia.

One does not have to be an animal right activist to see its wrongness and cruelty, one has to be simply human.

One does not have to be a business profiting from this industry to see that some ways of 'making a living' are simply wrong (in the same way that one knows that killing another human or stealing or cheating are all wrongful ways to use to 'make a living'), one just has to be a decent human being.

We humans use animals in countless cruel ways, one of these extreme cruelties is 'live export'.

People need to eat to survive, no one denies this. It is up to each individual to decide whether he/she needs/wants to rely on meat and other animal farm products for their nourishment. Personally, I live well, eat well and am healthy on a plant-based diet. I believe it is not only better for me, but it is the ethical and moral way to eat, it is meant to be so, and no animal should suffer unnecessarily on my behalf.

Nevertheless, many (far too many) choose otherwise, and while I sadly accept this choice, we all know that the least we can do is be mindful as to how we produce the meat, dairy and eggs we choose to consume. Unfortunately, all these industries fail miserably in their care, compassion and in their cruel exploitation of animals. This is not my view; it is a known fact.

As for the meat industry, it is heartbreaking enough that animals are bred and raised just so to send them to slaughter well before they actually lived, but when the cruelty extends to shipping them away on long horrendous trips under inhumane conditions and to destinies that have no regards, no regulation, no compassion, no legal procedures as to how they are to be disembarked and treated, it is below inhuman.

If we must send meat as food to any destiny outside Australia, it can be – and should be - sent as 'frozen'.

Any country that has specific requirements (be it 'Halal' or "kosher' or otherwise) can engage supervisors to pre-see the slaughter and processing here, in Australia.... It is absolutely, and equally acceptable. My daughter who unlike me chooses to eat meat and observes 'kosher' regulations, has no

problem getting her meat frozen and so can others. This excuse that is often used is simply false.

The only 'benefit' of 'live export' is to make the process as cheap as possible. But we are not dealing with objects, but with living being who breathe and feel. Their life is already short, as it is for all animals raised for meat, their death is already the terrible reality of the slaughterhouse, and to top it all, with an agonizing long trip, and a worse with a more cruel and often barbaric death, unfathomable inhumanity and suffering.... No living being should be exposed to such. Only our human arrogance, greediness and lack of compassion to anyone but ourselves permits this.

Live export is evil, there is no other word for it. It is inexcusable.

Every day it goes on is another day of unfathomable suffering.

There is no time for 'long phase out' discussions and process....

Businesses had evolve many times in the past and they will this time as well. What is 'lost' (a quick 'buck') can be gained by extending credible slaughterhouses here; by increasing employment here; training employees in compassion; by engaging with interested religious authorities – be it Imans or Rabbis; by constructing additional refrigeration units (more industry); and so on....

Enough with the excuses, enough with the procrastination. Other countries did it already and so can Australia. It is up to our Government to simply say "NO". It is the only way to move forward, and not in a year time or two or three, but now... And hopefully this serves as just a first step for the total Animal Farming Industry, for all Humanity, to look at itself and repent.

Sincerely

Rachel Sussman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

