

Dogs West Member Submission on STOP PUPPY FARMING



Name	Leigh Jensen
Email address	
Prefix or Member #	
Breed(s)	Papillon, Brittany, Border Collie, French Bulldog
Phone Number	
Years involved	Over 40, 30 as an adult
Family involved?	⊠ Yes □ No
My thoughts on: Transition pet shops to adoption centres (can only sell dogs sourced from rescues).	The existing rescue organisations carry out background checks on new owners, and do pre-adoption property checks. In the case of the Animal Protection Society of WA, they do this and combine it with vaccinations, sterilisation and vet checks to then "sell" the dog for under \$500. They do all of this to reduce the likelihood of these animals re-entering the rescue process in the future. What pet shop is going to be so thorough? They currently charged \$Thousands to anyone prepared to stump up the funds, and are one of the major sources of dogs who will be abandoned – yet you think they are a solution? This approach you are suggesting has failed EVERYWHERE it has been tried before.
My thoughts on: Introduce mandatory dog de-sexing.	At the presentation you conceded that this was a bad idea at the young age proposed. It was claimed that this was "the best information available in 2013". This is completely untrue, and everyone you spoke to on those evenings at Dogswest knew it. It's been known to be a poor practice for decades. Are you still accepting counsel/advice from the group/people/person who gave such flawed advice? I hope you have gone through the material you are working with and discarded everything from that source – they have no credibility at all.
My thoughts on: Introduce a centralised registration system and Council registration to be a Breeder.	This will only keep tabs on honest people, who are NOT the target of this legislation. Anyone who wishes to operate outside of your scrutiny merely needs to continue a practice of not microchipping/registering as they currently are, and your dream falls on its face. So you will make it more difficult for people who are currently doing the right thing, and have no effect on the people you are trying to target. An expensive waste of time and resources.
My thoughts on: Introduce mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing, husbandry, transport and sale.	We already have these. Why do you see the need to re-invent the wheel? In fact on the night I attended the Dogswest talk the opening paragraph of your presentation stated that WA has some of the toughest laws for animal welfare in the world and certainly within the country. It seems that you merely need to investigate and enforce the legislation that is already in place – because with all the proposed changes you have still overlooked investigation and enforcement.