



Dogs West Member Submission on
STOP PUPPY FARMING



Name	Natasha Ryan
Email address	[REDACTED]
Prefix or Member #	[REDACTED]
Breed(s)	Newfoundlands & Golden Retrievers
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Years involved	29
Family involved?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<i>My thoughts on:</i> Transition pet shops to adoption centres (can only sell dogs sourced from rescues).	<p>I don't believe any dogs or cats should be sold through Pet Shops. I believe that this plays on the "impulse purchase". Adopting an animal should be a well thought out, and researched process with support from Adoption Centre staff who know the animals intimately. I also strongly believe that many of the animals in adoption centres have unfortunately suffered with lack of training, sometimes abuse and their temperaments need to be matched perfectly with the right person/family to ensure they do not end up back in the same system.</p> <p>As DogsWest breeders we strive to ensure that our puppies go to loving, appropriate homes. We endeavour to reduce the risk of our puppies ending up in adoption centres by providing ongoing support(including the rehoming of older dogs we have bred ourselves), strictly 'vetting' all homes to ensure that the breed is right for the person/family, governed breeding practices ensure that we have expected outcomes in terms of breed temperaments, specific characteristics eg. Activity levels, size, health problems. The fact that the parentage is mostly unknown in many of the dogs in adoption centres certainly makes the process of rehoming these dogs challenging and requires in depth knowledge of each animal.</p>
<i>My thoughts on:</i> Introduce mandatory dog de-sexing.	<p>I completely agree that ALL dogs in adoption centres and puppies bred by NON-REGISTERED PURE BRED breeders must be desexed. This will help to reduce the risk of further unwanted puppies in the population. However puppies purchased from DogsWest breeders or owned by DogsWest members, irrelevant of locality within WA should be EXEMPT.</p> <p>As a breeder of large breed dogs I have grave concerns about prospectively desexing these types of breeds at under the age of 18 months. This is due to the large, overwhelming evidence produced by studies around the world that shows there are MANY developmental effects that can be caused by desexing prior to the closure of growth plates, which for a breed such as Newfoundlands can be up to 18months-2years. Dogswest breeders STRIVE to breed the healthiest/highest quality dogs in whichever breed we are involved in, mandatory desexing would be of great detriment to our Pure Bred puppies health, and also to the 100's of years of breed development for our breeds, that we are continuing today.</p> <p>As registered breeders we provide our puppy buyers with ongoing education to guide them through the challenges of having undesexed dogs, we also have Limited Register which allows us to sell undesexed dogs/puppies with the knowledge that they cannot be bred from and registered unless we as the breeder allow it. I have attached links to several studies re:health implications of early desexing</p> <p>http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0102241#s4</p>



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	<p>https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/vms3.34</p>
<p><i>My thoughts on:</i> Introduce a centralised registration system and Council registration to be a Breeder.</p>	<p>I agree that there needs to be a regulatory system for breeders, however find using the term "breeder" for someone who is simply producing cross bred or non DogsWest registered pure bred dogs somewhat offensive. These people are simply "PRODUCERS", they are filling a gap in a market where there is a demand. They are not producing animals for the development or betterment of a breed, but rather simply as a revenue source.</p> <p>So YES there does need to be a regulatory system for all NON DOGSWEST MEMBERS/BREEDERS, this should include the same mandatory welfare/health requirements we as Registered breeders MUST provide. This includes no puppies to leave the residence of 'producer' prior to 8 weeks, vaccination & microchip, puppies housed & fed appropriately.</p> <p>DOGSWEST breeders should be exempt from this system as we have our own longstanding, strict regulatory system that ensures all puppies bred have above requirements plus also appropriate health/DNA testing of parents, traceable parentage, ongoing breeder support and any breaches in rules are dealt with promptly & with harsh penalties.</p> <p>DW breeders should be the Gold Standard for these 'producers', we provide a role model that they can strive towards in producing their puppies. As such we should be acknowledged in this proposed legislation as being exempt from any such Registration System.</p> <p>I believe we should be able to provide our DogsWest number to Councils so as they are aware we are governed by DW, but not required to pay fees associated with this 'producer' registration system as we are & have been paying hefty fees to be Pure Bred Dog breeders for decades.</p>
<p><i>My thoughts on:</i> Introduce mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing, husbandry, transport and sale.</p>	<p>Yes I believe there should definitely be minimum standards developed for all NON DOGSWEST Breeders, with particular emphasis on animal husbandry, minimum age for transport/sale of puppies.</p> <p>Again DogsWest can provide its own management of these issues. We already have minimum age for sale/transport of puppies as part of our regulations. We also have strict regulations regarding welfare of ALL dogs owned by DW members, not just puppies. The introduction of Welfare officer to DW will also assist in the governance of these issues and as such means we are able to provide the assurance to Local & State Governemnt that we can police our standards in house, thus reducing strain on the State Govt proposed system.</p>