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Queensland Racing Integrity Commission  
PO Box 15666  
CITY EAST QLD 4002

*By Email:*  
[contact@inquiry@gric.qld.gov.au](mailto:contact@inquiry@gric.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT EQUINE WELFARE INQUIRY**

We advise our submissions are as follows:-

1. Horses viewed on the video are not just racehorses.
2. They include horses from every other pursuit including show jumping, dressage, pony club, work horses and recreational horses.
3. It was unfair and inaccurate to isolate and categorise all those horses as “racehorses”.
4. It was easy for media and animal welfare advocates to target the racehorse industry as racehorses are more readily observable in everyday life, have greater exposure and marketing. This is particularly so having regard to the Spring Carnival in Melbourne and Sydney.
5. There are 264 abattoirs/ slaughter houses in Australia and 36 in Queensland. To reduce the number of horses in the country would simply mean that the number of abattoirs/ slaughter houses would go out of businesses and therefore be reduced. The concern is that not one (1) horse be a racehorse, recreational or whatever should come to the end of its life in a humane manner.
6. It is the responsibility of the abattoirs/ slaughter houses to ensure that horses come to an end in a humane manner. There are provisions in the Legislation to ensure that these licenced abattoirs/ slaughter houses conduct their activities and operations appropriately. Furthermore, each abattoir/ slaughter house should have an audit process by a registered veterinary surgeon overseeing the

activities to ensure the humane treatment of all animals. There should be legislative authority for unannounced inspections.

7. As well, there are authorised inspectors who should similarly carry out their responsibilities to ensure the appropriate dealings with all animals.
8. In the lifetime of a racehorse, it may have many handlers and owners and, as with all life, there is an end and the point is that at that end the process should be in a humane and proper manner.
9. Racehorse owners love their horses and when disposing of them always ensure they go to good homes.
10. There are handlers of horses as well as abattoirs/ slaughter houses that also mistreat horses and legislation should ensure for stricter and easier prosecutions.
11. As best as possible, stakeholders should have an input into the welfare of horses and do whatever possible to make a contribution for their proper welfare.

Yours sincerely,



Vincent Pennisi  
President  
QROA