

INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Carla Parr

Date Received: 2 March 2022

Dear Members

I am a hobby breeder of Basenjis. I am alarmed that by stopping hobby breeders the only puppies being bred will be by the larger licensed commercial concerns.

I only bred one litter a year, I am very careful where I place my puppies and they are never sold to people who haven't carefully considered what dog ownership looks like. These pups are kept with their mother till 10 weeks of age, are raised in my home and are well socialised, something commercial breeders cannot achieve.

I am also a dog trainer and can attest to the behaviour problems people encounter when they buy a commercially bred puppy. Often the first contact they have with any human apart from a kennel maid is the day they are delivered to a pet shop or collected from a dog farm which as far as the raising of dogs are concerned are not much better than the puppy mills you are trying to stamp out

I would hate for any rare breed to become extinct in this country. Basenjis only produce 4 puppies a year and are of no interest to the commercial breeders. Many other breeds only produce small litters.

To maintain breed vigor and health it is necessary to have a large gene pool to draw from again something commercial breeders will not be able to sustain.

The most alarming proposal is that all dog breeding is banned until the dog shelters are empty. Most ethical breeders cannot keep up with demand and it's rare that pure bred breeds even end up in shelters as breed clubs rescue and rehome pure bred dogs whenever they are surrendered.

To wait for all the unregistered breeders to run out of un desexed to breed from would take years and in that time the breeding stock of health checked pedigree dogs would be decimated, never to recover.

Rather like banning Greyhound racing and greyhound breeding a more measured approach would be in order.

The Animal Rights activists would like to stop all pet ownership and knowing how important pets are for mental health it just seems very short-sighted. The general public are unaware of the final objective of the Animal rights Party as they have been very careful not to state their real aims publicly.

Please consider the much wider picture and find a better way to stop puppy mills as I can assure you that most of us are breeding in very small numbers and with great care.

Carla Parr