

Dogs West Member Submission on STOP PUPPY FARMING



Name	Catherine Storrs
Email address	
Prefix or Member #	
Breed(s)	Boxer
Phone Number	
Years involved	20+
Family involved?	⊠ Yes □ No
My thoughts on: Transition pet shops to adoption centres (can only sell dogs sourced from rescues).	No dogs should be sold in Pet Shops Shelters should be accredited by the government.
	Shelters should not be breeding establishments.
	I also believe a cooling off period should be introduced to stop impulse buying.
	There needs to be minimum requirements in regards to record keeping maintained by shelters. This would include dogs coming in, training given, Veterinary attention given, assessments conducted, history of the dog, where the dog goes.
	Shelters should have the same duty of care and disclosure as registered breeders. They must have truth in advertising. If they do not know the parentage of the breed they must stipulate same. Unless they have proof of breed either through registered pedigrees or DNA then dogs should not be represented as particular breeds. Cross bred dogs must not be advertised as a mix of particular breeds unless the shelters have proof.
	Dogs West Clubs and Members offer breed specific advice and rescue to many breeds and should be accredited under any scheme as they operate within the Regulations and Code of Ethics of Dogs West
My thoughts on:	DO NOT SUPPORT !!! there should be no mandatory de-sexing
Introduce mandatory dog de-sexing.	I am a Dogs West, ANKC registered breeder. I have several dogs placed out in pet homes as loved companions. These dogs are still available to me to use for breeding (on breeder's terms). Under this legislation these dogs may have to be de-sexed. This will be a great loss to my breeding programme and will significantly reduce the available gene pool and affect the genetic diversity of the breed in this state. All Dogs West members should be exempt from mandatory de-sexing including dogs members may have in the wider community.
	If too many dogs are sterilised as a result of this law it will be very hard for the public to be able to obtain a healthy, well-bred dog from a responsible breeder because there will not be enough dogs being bred by the right type of breeders. There will still be plenty around from the Puppy Farmers because I believe that mandatory sterilisation does not stop THEM. People who are currently doing the wrong thing will continue to do so. There will now be a greater incentive for them to continue and or expand.
	Why does WA need compulsory sterilisation when biggest States do not?
	Any legislation proposed by government should be on a "no-harm' basis. Many studies show the effect of sterilisation on dogs in relation to diseases, such as cancer, behavioural issues and incorrect growth, such as elongated bones and joint disorders.



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	I don't believe vouchers are a viable option- there are too many variables in the costs involved in the de-sexing of dogs. Dogs are vastly different from cats.
My thoughts on: Introduce a centralised registration system and Council registration to be a Breeder.	Dogs West members should be able to retain and use their membership numbers. We are members of a well-established organisation that has compressive set of rules, regulations and a Code of Ethics governing the breeding of dogs. Dogs West also actively polices and acts on breaches to these. Dogs West has a better record on acting on breaches to its regulation's etc than the Dog Act or the Cat act for that matter.
	You are opening up a new set of problems by 'authorising and endorsing' anyone that wants to breed. Legitimising anyone that wants to breed by making them 'Registered' is not going to solve this problem.
	Dogs West members have to go thru a lengthy process to be able to process puppies. Why are we being targeted? Dogs West members are already doing the right thing and this is adding another layer of complexity and legislation to the wrong people.
	Many Dogs West breeder members don't live in a Kennel Area. They raise their puppies in their homes in a loving and caring environment. What will happen to these breeders when their local council refuses to register them as breeders. You are proposing legislation that will REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PROPERLY BRED PUPPIES. This will reduce the supply of healthy, well raised puppies and create a greater market for farmed puppies.
My thoughts on: Introduce mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing, husbandry, transport and sale.	As stated above Dogs West already has strict rules and regulation's relating to breeding and welfare. Members who breach these can be heavily penalised both financially and personally.
	Dogs West should have been involved in the drafting of any proposed standards from the beginning. We have many years of experience both from the theory and the practical sides of breeding. I am very disappointed this has been the case. I would have thought the government department involved would have looked at the experiences in both Victoria and New South Wales when a department tried to introduce standards without bring the members of an ANKC body along from the beginning.
	Dogs West has been trying to be involved from when they first became aware but have been repeatly rejected.