



PRIME MINISTER

Reference: MC16-068297

6 September 2016

The Students
Year 6
Wahroonga Public School
71 Burns Road
WAHROONGA NSW 2076

Dear Year 6 students

Thank you for taking the time to write to me on this important issue.

The export of live animals is an important industry for many of our farmers and regional communities. It also provides an important food source for people in other countries.

The Government takes the welfare of Australian livestock sent overseas very seriously. No one wants animals to be treated cruelly.

This is why there are strong rules and systems in place to look after livestock from Australia when they are on ships and when they are in other countries. There are consequences for exporters who break these rules, which can include stopping them from exporting.

There are strict rules to ensure that animals being transported on ships have enough space, air, food and water. A vet must also be on board for the journey.

Australia is leading the world and this is helping lift animal welfare standards in other countries too. Our farmers can be proud of this.

I send you my best wishes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mal Turnbull'.

MALCOLM TURNBULL

10 August 2016
71 Burns Road
Wahroonga
NSW 2076

Dear Mr Turnbull,

I am here to make you aware of a catastrophic incident that is still ongoing the exporting of live cattle to Vietnam. These cattle are being beaten repeatedly with a sledgehammer until death.

I am in Year 6 at Wahroonga Public School and I was absolutely appalled to know that we are exporting live cattle to a slaughterhouse; a slaughterhouse that is cruelly exterminating cattle. I know that the cattle are going to die anyway, but they shouldn't die in such a cruel way.

My whole class read an article that had images of the cattle being slaughtered in such a brutal way that our teacher had to take them off the article.

I was even more horrified to know that the Australian Livestock Exports Council knew all about this for a year and still decided to do nothing. They have hidden this from the public, and done nothing for over a year. All they did was just sit around and watch it happen. We have the right to know where our cattle are being sent and what other countries are doing to them.

In conclusion I am outraged that these cattle are still being slaughtered and I want you to do something about it. There must be better practices adopted to eliminate this cruel end to an animal's life.

Yours faithfully,

James Champion

10th August
Wahroonga
71 Burns Road
NSW 2076

Dear Mr Turnbull,

I am a Year 6 student at Wahroonga Public School and my name is Siobhan Parkes. At school we have been learning about our connections with Asia and read an article about what is happening to our live cattle exports. It was terrible when we found out that Australian cattle were being cruelly killed in Vietnam abattoirs. I am writing to you to try to persuade you to stop the live exports of animals to save these poor animals from a miserable, callous death.

There are multiple videos of workers in Vietnam abattoirs using *sledge - hammers* to torture these innocent cattle to death. This is horrifying and inhumane way of treating our cattle but it shows that they do not care properly for the cattle we supply them with. All live exports of cattle should be stopped at once.

I am not happy with the fact that the ALEC has hidden it from the public for over a year. It is a shameful fact that they knew this but instead of dealing with the media and the public instead chose to ignore it and let it continue. Why they chose to do this, I do not know but it was a terrible decision that did not help the cattle at all. They said they made changes to the system but it is still happening.

How would you feel if you were one of these cattle about to be beaten to death? I suppose not very happy. So why do these poor innocent cattle have to suffer that fate. I am writing to you to tell you one thing, **stop live exports of Australian cattle.**

Siobhan Parkes 6F