

THE EKKA IS HELL FOR ANIMALS.

It might all sound like a harmless day of fun, but this year, scores of frightened animals will be tied up, caged, teased, prodded, mutilated and exhibited for the amusement of Brisbanites for days on end. Animal Activism Queensland (AAQ) has investigated this exhibition for the past two years and has consistently uncovered animal welfare breaches.

Though the RNA has banned the sale of live goldfish and the glueing of cows' udders 'for a more appealing shape', other equally cruel exhibits continue to exploit the welfare of animals in a cheap attempt to entertain EKKA-goers.

AAQ works with authorities to prosecute for technical welfare breaches, but other animal cruelty goes unnoticed by the RNA as there is no law against sheer meanness.

Pigs are poked and prodded until they leap off ladders at 'Expo Pig'; Cows are tethered for days at a time without even enough room to turn around; Hundreds of animals scared and fatigued by constant noise and crowds; Sheep are mutilated at careless public shearings; Working dogs are forced to perform over and over again or chained up in the sun; And so on it goes.

These exhibits will continue only so long as we let them...

THINK TWICE.

The meat industry also uses the EKKA to bring to the public a glimpse of farming and - country life, yet nowhere to be seen in this

display of rural charm are the abattoirs, battery hen cages or pig stalls. Nor will we experience the reality of mulesing, animals being branded or castrated or having their tails or beaks cut off without pain relief. While children are encouraged to pet cute baby animals at the "Farmyard Friends" exhibit, just outside, the dagwood dog stalls are serving these animals' mothers on a stick. What kind of mixed messages is this sending to our children? Don't be fooled by a charade of rural romanticism sponsored by the meat industry: if a realistic review of farming were on display at the EKKA it would be a blood bath of screaming animals.

“The Ekka is a disgrace. No animal should be subjected to the total lack of decency displayed at the show.”

— the Courier Mail, 2004

IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THE EKKA THIS YEAR,

Please take a moment to visit the information office and let them know that entertainment at the expense of animals is offensive and request that these pitiful exhibits be banned from future shows. Find the office near the Police station between the showbag pavilion and the main arena.

ENTERTAINMENT, OR CRUELTY?



Confused piglets are thrown into the air and forcibly raced against each other amidst the chaos of screaming children. This is just one of the EKKA's saddening displays of cheap entertainment at the expense of frightened animals.

BEHIND THE SCENES...

One of the hundreds of cattle tethered in long rows, behind the scenes at the EKKA. These animals are confined so tightly they can't comfortably lie down or even turn around. They are left without water to lie in their own urine and excrement.



SHEAR TERROR



The EKKA's pitiful sheep shearing exhibit displays sheep with careless shearing injuries. This sheep is covered in deep, bleeding gashes. The area under her front left leg is a large, blood clotted wound along with all the other visible nicks.



Don't stand for animal cruelty. To learn more, visit:

www.AnimalActivism.org