

# Live Animal Exports



## WRITING RINGS

*for Righting Wrongs*

Josephite Justice Network

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May 2018

### VALUES

**Creation is the first and fundamental revelation of God.**

Animals are an integral part of creation.

Humans and animals are dynamically related, each influencing the health and well-being of the other. True humanity depends on treating animals with compassion and kindness.

By their very existence animals praise and bless God.

[Pope Francis](#) recently said:

*"...we must forcefully reject the notion that our being created in God's image and given dominion over the earth justifies absolute domination over other creatures."*

*"... indifference or cruelty towards fellow creatures of this world sooner or later affects the treatment we mete out to other human beings."*

*"It is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly."*

from [Laudato Si](#)



### CONCERNS

#### Suffering and cruelty

Evidence reveals the shocking abuse suffered by animals in the live export trade. Both sheep and cattle are exposed to horrific conditions during transportation and then are often subjected to barbaric methods of slaughter.

During the past 30 years Australia has shipped 200 million sheep to the Middle East. During that time, 3 million have died at sea. In 2017 more than 4000 sheep died on five shipments.

Recently, 2400 sheep died in appalling conditions en route. Many more have suffered injury, illness, distress, lack of food and water directly caused by the long sea voyage.

#### Blaming other cultures

It is not necessary to slaughter Australian animals overseas for [religious reasons](#).

*"Over 70% of Australian abattoirs are Halal accredited. In Australia, stunning is required for Halal practices so that the animal is unconscious at death. Therefore domestic processing would ensure that both halal and animal welfare needs are met."*

The supply of Halal meat certified in Australia is acceptable in other cultures. [Complete chilled export is possible](#).

*"But ask the animals... and they will teach you. In God's hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all humanity."*

*Job 12:7, 10*

## CONCERNS

### Impotent Australian Law

The deaths of the animals arise from failures of regulators to observe Australian Animal Welfare Laws, and International standards. The way Australia currently sends animals overseas is illegal under Australian law.

The law has not been sufficient to save animals from suffering. As this has been going on for decades, there is no guarantee that change will occur.

*The live export trade must end.*

### What about the farmers?

Many farmers are distressed by the reported cruel treatment but have little control over exports.

The live sheep export trade is already in decline as the industry increases the shipping of processed meat. Two-thirds of exports from WA are in processed form. The value of the whole live trade export market fell by 33% over the period 2009-10 to 2015-16.

While the Australian Meat Industry Council does not support a ban on live exports, it says that the industry could meet demand if live exports were phased out.

“We are able to meet all slaughter requirements, all religious requirements and labelling requirements to ensure that our product is fit for the purpose and meets consumers’ demands.”

*(Australian Meat Council Industry Chair)*

Public pressure will ensure that government and industry work together to facilitate the transition **from live exports to the export of processed meat.**

## WHAT WE CAN DO

Understand the situation. Go to [Animals Australia](#). See [RSPCA](#).

Congratulate the parliamentarians who have spoken out in recent weeks:

[Sussan Ley MP](#) (Liberal)  
Telephone: (02) 6277 4412  
Read [Article](#)

[Ed Husic MP](#) (ALP)  
Telephone: (02) 6277 4488

[Stephen Jones MP](#) (ALP)  
Telephone: (02) 6277 4661

[Andrew Wilkie MP](#) (Independent)  
Telephone: (02) 6277 4766

***Congratulate the Labor Party which now intends to phase out live sheep exports:***

**Mr Bill Shorten**  
[Bill.Shorten.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Bill.Shorten.MP@aph.gov.au)  
Telephone: 6277 4022

**Mt Joel Fitzgibbon**  
Shadow Minister for Agriculture  
[Joel.Fitzgibbon.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Joel.Fitzgibbon.MP@aph.gov.au)  
Telephone: 6277 4550

### Please follow-up your action:

- What actual steps will the Labor Party take?
- How will they deal with those who oppose this?
- Support Liberal MPs who go against the current party line.

The greater the volume of correspondence, the greater the likelihood of action. Let's do it for the sheep, the cattle, and all voiceless, defenceless animals.

[Click here to sign the AAVAZ petition](#)

*Australia detains some human refugees indefinitely.*

*No wonder animals are treated unfairly.*

*It's up to us*



*New Zealand has not had live exports for years. Britain is considering a complete live export ban.*

**Let's call for the complete phasing out of the Australian live animal export trade.**

