

**Inquiry into the Animal Care and Protection Amendment Bill 2022**

**Submission No:** 149  
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**Attachments:** No attachment

**Submitter Comments:**

Aversive approaches in dog training such as punishment, and aversive equipment such as prong collars and check chains are scientifically proven to cause physical and psychological damage to dogs. Proven to be more effective in training and rehabilitating any dog with any behavioural issue is a fear and force free approach, teaching a preferred behaviour using positive reinforcement.

Fear and intimidation creates a nervous, anxious dog fearful of people, situations and environments associated with the trauma experienced when subjected to aversive treatment. Force and fear free reinforcement techniques, create an enthusiastic trusting dog willing to learn new behaviours and reactions. Successful rehabilitation of a dog using the Do No Harm philosophy results in a happy relaxed safe dog. Aversive methods such as the prong collar results in fearful anxious shutdown dogs never to be trusted for fear their emotional responses will get directed towards other animals, children or people in their environment. I'd recommend consultation with Veterinary Behaviour Specialists who have the highest level of qualifications, knowledge, experience and skills in the area of dog rehabilitation.