Inquiry into the Animal Care and Protection Amendment Bill 2022

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Submitter Comments:

I am a trainer of nearly 40 years and over this time science and behaviour have proven that dogs like all other mammals (indeed humans as well) learn more effectively without force or pain. Whilst many people now work with reward based training ignoring or redirecting behaviour they want to decrease. There are those out there in 2022 still checking jerking and zapping dogs. The physical damage to the neck is bad enough where prong collars pinch and pierce the neck of the dog however there is also psychological damage as the animal will fear the equipment and associate pain with the handler. WHY do we allow such pain and cruelty in the name of training in 2022. We have created legislation to protect children and women against violence yet we still allow barbaric equipment on animals all in the name of training. Prong collars are imported into Australia in pieces to get around customs and put together and sold. Prong collared must be banned along with tighter laws against importing. Honestly it doesn't matter if the dog is being trained for security or high level obedience - if a trainer has to use prong collars or shock collars then they shouldn't be training.