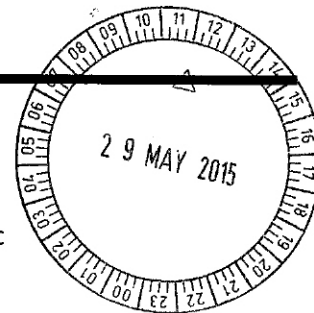


## Joint Select Committee into the RSPCA

**From:** ANGELA SMITH  
**Sent:** Friday, 29 May 2015 11:46 AM  
**To:** Joint Select Committee into the RSPCA  
**Subject:** Select Committee into the Operations of the RSPCA WA Inc



I am in disbelief (and deep disappointment) that the WA government is wasting taxpayers' money by appointing a select committee into the operations of the RSPCA WA (Inc).

Surely, it is the electoral system that is in need of reform - when extremists (with a tiny fraction of primary votes) can get elected on the unintended basis of preferential votes.

And, it is scandalous that the WA government is allowing extremists to embark on a witch-hunt against the much respected RSPCA.

I was born on a farm and I grew up on a farm. I previously held a gun licence, and owned a rifle (as a primary producer). And, as a biological scientist, I have worked in remote national parks. So, I know that feral animals can wreak havoc on the physical and plant environment, and the wildlife. But I also know that the biggest destroyers are male homo sapiens.

I also know that some 'sporting shooters' who have licences – including through gun clubs and TAFE courses – shouldn't. And, there is no way they should be allowed to enter national parks or treat the culling of feral animals as a 'sport'.

Most farmers hate feral animals, but they hate cruelty to animals more so – including the needless and disgusting live animal export industry.

Allowing sporting shooters into national parks would be a seriously retrograde step, and the RSPCA ought to be commended for bringing that to the attention of the public (who would not have known had it not been for the RSPCA ads). Instead, we have Rick Mazza MLC and his gun toting mates (i.e. with a clear vested interest) seeking to censure the good guys.

And, the WA government has appointed an unapologetic pro guns lobbyist as Chair of the RSPCA witch-hunt Committee!!!!

The outcome will almost certainly be biased, because most won't be brave enough to stand up and speak out against an organisation of extremists – especially when all of its members have guns!?!

Angela Smith