

## Public Administration Committee

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**From:** Sean Glisson  
**Sent:** Sunday, 23 March 2014 12:09 PM  
**To:** Public Administration Committee  
**Subject:** Yes to shooting animals in WA

Dear Ms Mesiti,

Hello,

Hunting is a sport, but not as some people would have you believe. We hunters do not take pleasure in the 'murdering' of an animal, we take pleasure in the hunt! The stalking of the animal and the shooting of the animal is as close to a natural subsistence lifestyle as we can get in today's modernised world, if you take that away from us, you are taking away a link to our ancestry ways of living that we try to experience in as much authenticity as we can in the world today.

Shooting at a club is important because it teaches people how to be safe around firearms and also teaches maturity. Many of the activists today have never shot a rifle before or gone hunting to experience what actually happens, instead they rely on the second-hand, biased information provided by the media and their own twisted rumours to justify their crusade to destroy our sport and hobby.

Real hunters don't take a shot when they are unsure even in the slightest because, having hunted before, I know that there is no worse feeling than knowing that you have wounded an animal and were not able to kill it humanely. Real hunters are brought up to respect animals and respect firearms and would never dream of leaving a wounded animal to die in pain on purpose, even ferrel and vermin are treated with the dignity and respect that means hunters kill them in a humane manner as possible.

I am 18 years old and have seen in my lifetime people grow so much and mature to an extent that exceeds their age because of their experiences with firearms at a club, but the biggest result I have noticed, is that after hunting, these people, including myself, have a new respect for life and animals. A respect born out of stalking an animal and gaining respect for how the animal moves and lives is an experience like no other, and I pity those people who call us 'murderers' and 'evil-doers' from the comfort of their homes that have absolutely no idea what they are talking about, but they have begun this crusade against our sport because of the biased information provided by the media and their own spreading of twisted rumours that are believed by other like-minded activists in a heart-beat without consideration of the credibility of the 'facts' provided for them. All I ask is that these people who are against the 'unnecessary murdering of innocent animals' come out hunting and see just how humane it really is and those people that say 'guns kill' come down to a rifle club and see how many people are enjoying the sport of shooting and tell them to go tell Olympic shooting champions that guns kill. The truth of the matter is cars kill more people every year than guns do, but you don't see people saying 'ban cars' do you. The only basis people have for justification that guns do kill is during wartime and when an idiot somehow gets their hand on a loaded weapon. This is why we need to not only preserve our sport, but expand it so that more people are aware of how firearms really work and can be safe around them. This alone will reduce the number of deaths caused by firearms because the number of accidental discharges resulting in death will decrease dramatically.

Please save our sport and preserve it for future generations.

Regards,  
Sean Glisson