

A major issue facing New Zealand is how pigs are farmed, specifically the use of farrowing crates during pregnancy and piglet rearing. Some 16,000 New Zealand sows are confined in such cages from approximately a week prior to, until around four weeks after they give birth.

These pigs are kept in these cramped metal stalls, their living conditions are so cramped they are not able to move at all, they are only able to stand up or sit down. An organisation trying to change this issue is SAFE. They are determined to change the law to get farrowing crates legally banned. Some of the actions they have done are; educating consumers through the 350 degree pig farm experience, petitions to the government and encouraging people to boycott pork.

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Hans Kriek, a SAFE campaign director has a point of view about factory cage farming in New Zealand. He believes that cage farming is a horrific crime against the rights of animals. He said, "instinctively you look at that, you see animals that can't move around, that are overcrowded, you see animals completely frustrated, and I thought, 'no that's not on'. It was probably one of the saddest sights I've ever seen in my entire life."

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Mike King, an actor and comedian has a point of view about factory cage farming in New Zealand. He believes that cage farming is inhumane, a horrible way to treat an animal and should be outlawed. He said "I will not be a part of this brutality. It is disgusting. I firmly believe that anyone who sees this would want it to stop."

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The type of social action that SAFE did, effectively enabled responsibilities to be met and rights to be exercised. As New Zealand citizens, we have the responsibility to demand that the government represents our needs/wants. SAFE exercised this responsibility by giving people a way of lobbying the government through the petition.

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