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Illegal guided video tour from inside a Victorian piggery released by activist group

- Farm Transparency Project has released a guided video tour of a major Victorian piggery using footage they captured while trespassing in the facility in late 2023.
- The tour was originally published last year as part of an interactive virtual-reality tour and led to charges being laid against two investigators from the organisation.
- Executive Director of Farm Transparency Project, Chris Delforce, speaks to camera during the tour, while showing the audience around sheds at Sunpork's Gowanbrae Piggery in Central Victoria.



Chris Delforce in a farrowing shed at Gowanbrae Piggery in Central Victoria.

Animal rights organisation Farm Transparency Project has published a full, guided video tour of a Victorian piggery using footage that led to charges being laid against two of the organisation's staff, including Executive Director, Chris Delforce.

In the video, Delforce is followed by a camera as he walks through the sheds of Gowanbrae Piggery in Central Victoria, which is owned by Australia's largest pork producer, Sunpork. He shares information about standard practices used on Australian pig farms, including the cutting of tails without anaesthetic and the killing of underweight or weak piglets by bashing their heads on a concrete floor or hard surface. He also shows the camera dead piglets, left in the aisles with clear signs of predation, sows with pressure wounds and filthy conditions, including floors covered with maggots.

Parts of the tour were originally released embedded within a virtual reality tour of the piggery, published by the group in the lead up to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Pig Welfare. Delforce says that, following the release of this tour, he was charged with trespass and biosecurity laws which have since been heard in court.

"For over a decade, I have been investigating Australian pig farms and slaughterhouses. In that time, I've entered and filmed inside almost 100 piggeries and dozens of slaughterhouses. In every one of these places, I have seen pain, suffering and death on an unthinkable scale. We believe that consumers have the right to know exactly where the products they pay for come from."

"Everything we do at Farm Transparency Project is about forcing transparency on industries that resist it with every resource they have. Industries like the Australian pig meat industry know that if consumers actually knew what was happening in Australian piggeries and pig slaughterhouses, most would want nothing to do with it. With tactics like this, we break the law to expose what we see as a crime against morality; the senseless torture, mutilation and brutal slaughter of animals who have just as much capacity to feel as you or I."

Facilities related to this media release:

Gowanbrae Piggery, Pine Lodge VIC

Campaigns related to this media release:

Sow stalls

Farm Transparency Project (FTP) is a non-profit animal protection charity, dedicated to ending the abuse and exploitation of animals in farms, slaughterhouses and other commercial settings. Through comprehensive investigations, documentary films, and the creation of innovative tools and resources, FTP seeks to force industry transparency and educate consumers by shining a light on the brutal reality endured by animals in the name of profit.