

"Killing kangaroos - Canberra Times 23 February 2017]

I was pleased to see you have given notice to Australians about the proposed continued killing of kangaroos in the ACT.

It is interesting that persons who see value and want to save the eastern grey kangaroo are referred to as "activists".

What term is used to describe the persons who advocate killing (it is not culling) the kangaroos – "murderers"?

If the "murderers" want to save plants, lizards etc, why haven't they stopped scouring land areas for development to gain financial advantage.

These people will be recorded in the history of the ACT government for future Australians to remember and abhor.

Anthony Birt, Gungahlin

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"Thank you, Anthony Birt (Letters 23 February) for calling the government out on its kangaroo extermination program, that it is really about green-fields development to make money. A short letter can't say everything, so I would like to draw readers' attention, to the cruelty of the kangaroos slaughter which has been witnessed repeatedly by people the government likes to dismiss as 'activists'.

To illustrate this cruelty, I will quote the words of ex-kangaroo shooter, David Nicholls, written from his own experience in the field.

"Kangaroos have a social life not unlike humans, with strong mother and joey ties, companions, relatives and the like. When continually shot, kangaroos fret for loved ones, forced to live their own lives in a state of spasmodic terror."

"Kangaroos can be and are horribly wounded, in-pouch joeys are bludgeoned to death. The out of pouch joeys, all alone for the first time in their short lives, panic-stricken after witnessing the brutal death their mothers, are left to die from starvation or hypothermia (or foxes). The survivors live in a state of constant fear with the proper social order in constant disarray and upheaval."

The suggested term 'murderers' takes on new depth and credibility in the light of these words from a man who was once out there killing these peaceful creatures.

Robyn Soxsmith  
Co-Founder,  
Animal Protectors Alliance