



## AJP Policy Document

# Minimising animal suffering during slaughter

The Animal Justice Party Aotearoa NZ (AJP) is committed to protecting the rights and dignity of animals exploited in the agricultural system, including at the point of slaughter. We reject the idea that killing animals for products can ever be truly humane, as it inherently violates their right to life. While working towards the complete abolition of animal slaughter, we advocate for urgent reforms to eliminate the most egregious practices, improve transparency and enforcement in slaughter facilities, and reduce suffering where it still occurs.

AJP advocates for the elimination of all inhumane methods of slaughter, as existing practices often prioritise efficiency and profit over animal welfare. We believe that no animal should endure unnecessary pain, fear or distress at the end of their life.

A particularly cruel and unnecessary example is the widespread culling of male chicks. AJP is committed to ending this practice by implementing alternatives, such as in-ovo sexing and support for plant-based and cellular egg technologies, that prevent the mass killing of animals deemed uneconomical.

To ensure transparency and improved compliance with animal welfare regulations, AJP calls for mandatory video surveillance in all slaughterhouses. Independent oversight and access to footage by veterinary and law enforcement agencies is essential to prevent cruelty and ensure accountability.

AJP recognises that no reforms can make the slaughter of sentient beings truly just. However, while animal killing continues, we will fight for measures that reduce suffering, increase accountability and challenge the legitimacy of an industry built on exploitation. These reforms are essential steps in our broader mission to replace animal agriculture with compassionate, sustainable systems that respect the rights and lives of all animals.

**Key Objectives:**

1. Prohibit all slaughter methods that cause unnecessary suffering and fail to render animals immediately unconscious and insensible to pain.
2. Ensure transparency and accountability in slaughterhouses, including mandatory video surveillance, independent monitoring and law enforcement access to footage.
3. Ban the mass culling of male chicks and invest in ethical alternatives such as in-ovo sexing and support for plant-based and cellular egg technologies.
4. Advance the transition to a plant-based food system that eliminates the need for animal slaughter entirely. See AJP Transition to a plant-based economy policies.