LOVE PARTIES
HATE WHIPS

#LovePartiesHateWhips
rspca.org.au/whips

POSTER INSTRUCTIONS:
1. PRINT THIS PAGE IN COLOUR ONTO CARD OR PAPER
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3. FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, TAKE A PHOTO AND SHARE YOUR CREATIVE USE
   OF THE PRINTABLES ON SOCIAL MEDIA USING #LovePartiesHateWhips
Uncomfortable about watching the Cup?

Rest assured, you’re not alone.

Australians have a long-standing interest in horse racing, and the Melbourne Cup is a big national event in our annual calendar. We also love a party! Getting dressed up and enjoying great food and drinks with our family, friends or workmates is a huge part of the event – more so than the actual race.

For those of us who also love animals and want to see them treated well, watching the race can make for uncomfortable viewing.

Unfortunately, some races are tragically marred by injuries and deaths.

- In 2013, Verema broke her leg mid race and was euthanased on the track.
- In 2014, two horses died after racing in the Cup. Admire Rakti died of heart failure in his stall after the race; and Araldo broke his leg and had to be euthanased after being scared by a flag in the crowd.
- In 2015, Red Cadeaux did not finish after injuring his fetlock in the race, and was euthanased two weeks later.
- In 2017, Regal Monarch was euthanased after a fall in Race 4 and sadly became the fifth horse to die as a result of racing at the Melbourne Cup in five years.

But while attention is focused on these catastrophic events, the welfare problems of horse racing run much deeper.

For example, in the back of your mind, you might be thinking about the fate of the many horses that never even made it to the track.

Those that do, are routinely hit with whips - even as they tire in the race and are unable to respond.

The whipping of race horses is our most visible form of violence towards animals and would be a prosecutable offence if it took place away from the track.

Yet each horse can expect to be struck with the whip up to 18 times in the course of every race – no matter how much effort they have put in, or how exhausted they are.

So what can you do?

You don’t have to miss out on the party and the fun of dressing up at work or school.

But here are a few ways to feel better about the day:

- If you’re bothered by the sight of horses being hit with whips, you don’t have to watch the race. You can still join in the festivities without watching or supporting horse racing.
- Don’t be afraid to express your discomfort – we know many people out there feel increasingly uncomfortable with the spectacle of racing in its current form.
- Start a conversation with your friends or work mates about your concerns. If you use social media you can use hashtags like #LovePartiesHateWhips.
- Add your voice to the RSPCA’s call to stop the use of whips in racing at rspca.org.au/whips.

rsPCA.org.au/whips
#LovePartiesHateWhips
INSTRUCTIONS:
1. PRINT THIS PAGE IN COLOUR ON CARD OR LABELS
2. PIN OR ATTACH TO YOUR RACE-DAY OUTFIT
3. TAKE A PHOTO AND SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA WITH #LOVEPARTIESHATEWHIPS

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SHARE TO WIN
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