



Ivory Bill
Alex Appleby to: panel_ea

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Honourable Tanya Chan,

I have recently moved back to the UK but had previously lived in Hong Kong for over 20 years. I am a keen environmentalist and have been following the news in regard to the Ivory Bill, and wanted to write and express my support for the government's plan to close the domestic market.

I am in favour of this bill as I believe that the suffering of elephants and park rangers has to stop! I am a mother of four children and I find it unfathomable to me that my generation may be responsible for eradicating an animal which is so intelligent, majestic and capable of deep emotions, and will likely cease to exist for future generations if we don't act now. I have always believed that ivory has always looked best on elephants, and the gruesome pictures of elephants which have fallen victim to poachers crimes only confirms that. I believe that we must tackle demand for ivory and closing the domestic trade and availability is the first step towards this goal.

I would also like to express my opposition to the notion that ivory traders be offered compensation, as I believe that this may cause a surge in ivory poaching in order to gain additional government funds. I am also aware that traders have been alert to this for over 20 years and so have had ample time to sell their stocks and will have an additional 5 years post-legislation. I agree that training should be provided to those that were previously involved in the industry in order that they have to opportunity to continue working in an alternative livelihood, but I feel as though compensation outright is not the way forward.

Sincerely,
Alex Appleby