

# Latham Letter

VOLUME XIII, NUMBER 3

SUMMER 1992

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

## INSIDE

- More on what you need to know about preventing child and animal abuse from Phil Arkow (Page 9), Michael Robin (Page 11), and Cathy Rosenthal (Page 10).
- Research findings for avoiding "Burnout" (Page 17).
- A Painless Alternative to Declawing (Page 20).
- How you can order Latham's new book Universal Kinship: The Bond Between All Living Things (Page 23).



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*The Latham Foundation is focusing renewed attention on animal and child abuse, its causes, correlations, and challenges for prevention. See the article below and related stories on pages 9, 10, & 11.*

## Carrying Capacity Network Poses Question

### *Is Immigration an Environmental Issue?*

**Editor's Note:** *The following sobering and thought-provoking article appeared in the April 1992 issue of CARRYING CAPACITY NETWORK'S "Clearinghouse Bulletin." Its relevance to each of our various concerns is undeniable be they limited to human welfare or more importantly, that of the broad spectrum of fellow creatures with whom we share interdependence.*

Carrying Capacity Network is made up, for the most part, of organizations and activists who perceive the relationship between population growth and the variety of environmental issues that concern them. However, even for those who have made this connection, a tremendous challenge lies in the fact that at least 35-40% of population growth in the United States is a direct result of immigration.<sup>1</sup> How are environmentalists to come to grips with this issue, particularly when the advocacy of Limits on immigration is, whether rightly or wrongly, often linked in the media with right-wing causes of dubious intent or with lack of compassion?

Regular readers of the *Clearinghouse Bulletin* are aware that CCN has reported on immigration issues and considers the subject to be a

*CCN, continued on page 7*

## Connections Drawn Between Child and Animal Victims of Violence

*Dr. Lynn Loar and Kenneth White*

*"If only it were all so simple! If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?"*

— Alexander Solzhenitsyn

### Introduction:

We met late in the Fall of 1990, both invited to join a panel discussion at the annual national meeting of the Humane Society of the United States. At our first meeting we

immediately established that we both view our practical work as advocates for voiceless victims from the same philosophical starting point: that is, whether child or

*CONNECTIONS, continued on page 3*



Latham Foundation

**Schedules  
October 24 Seminar  
for  
Child and Animal  
Protection  
Professionals**

**See page 21**

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**REMEMBER  
TO  
RECYCLE**

### Coming in future LATHAM LETTERS:

- Report on the Latham Foundation's conference for child and animal protection professionals.
- Vegetarianism: Moral/Ethical, Health, and Political considerations - **PLUS:** The debate over public land use.



## EDITORIAL

# Education, Humane and Otherwise and the "What's in it for Me?" Syndrome

*Hugh H. Tebault*

Prior to instruction, the need for an educator to obtain the attention of those whom s/he wishes to instruct is axiomatic. Still, it's difficult to understand, albeit unintentionally, how frequently that important step is overlooked. An all-too-common teaching scenario involves an instructor sincerely dedicated to the importance of the subject at hand, engaging in instruction (written or verbal) under the mistaken assumption that those being addressed are automatically interested and attentive. An absolute necessity in the case of effective education, and certainly with humane educational efforts, is to have the listener's attention.

In one very important respect there is little difference between sales and teaching presentations, because success in both efforts requires the listener's attention. It's commonly understood that in the case of monetary salesmanship, the potential buyer is provided with reasons why a purchase will yield personal benefits. The fact is, the salesperson provides those reasons in hope that they will answer the listener's natural self-serving, but unspoken question, WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? and if so, a sale will be consummated. To be effective (i.e. to sell the listener), each humane educational presentation must incorporate the same reasoning and provide an answer to that same question.

Without a listener's needed, thoughtful contemplation, an admonition such as "Be Kind to Animals" though

meaningful to the humane educator, rarely answers the key, attention-capturing question, WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? Because every action which we take is motivated by a desired reaction; be it self-preservation, physical/moral gratification or satisfaction, or otherwise, an effective appeal for one to participate in humane thought and actions must include an answer to WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

We suggest that the prestigious American Humane Association's Child and Animal Divisions' current emphasis on relating child abuse to animal cruelty represents a great stride forward in humane education by providing an answer to WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

Their effort which focuses attention on and causes recognition of the fact that cruelty whether to human or nonhuman, effectively highlights its pervasiveness and potential relation to each listener. The point is driven home that rather than two separate problems, cruelty/abuse to children and animals is in fact not two but one and the same. That correlation not only provides a highly satisfying answer to those who over the years have asked incredulously, "How can one justify concern for mere animals when there are children who are suffering?" but also tellingly answers WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? That answer makes it possible for a thinking individual who heretofore has been unable to feel compassion for an animal, to rationally understand the need for kindness

as it relates to the welfare of their child, grandchild or other fellow human beings.

Because of its relevant importance to public humane educational indoctrination, the predominant theme of this issue of THE LATHAM LETTER deals with the co-relativeness of cruelty. We have, in that regard, included much information concerning American Humane Association's Report on its recent Summit on Violence towards Children and Animals. A revealing article by Cathy M. Rosenthal, relevant to that Summit, appeared in AHA's Fall 1991 publication *Advocate* under the title "Piecing Together the Picture of Abuse." In it she described the experience of Washington DC animal cruelty investigators which resulted as a response to a neglected dog complaint. "The home was in disarray; refuse was knee-deep throughout the house where not only animals but children and a debilitated grandmother lived. The children reported walking to the local convenience store to wash and use the bathroom because theirs was no longer functioning. The investigators removed the animals from the home and immediately contacted the local child welfare agency. The agency would never have known of the conditions in the house if the animal cruelty investigators had not told them."

We trust that our readership will find this issue of THE LATHAM LETTER of particular significance and deserving of thoughtful consideration.



# The Latham Letter

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
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**The Latham Letter** welcomes manuscripts relevant to the Foundation's interests and concerns, but reserves the right to publish such manuscripts at its discretion.

*CONNECTIONS, continued from page 1*

animal or, for that matter, dependent adult becomes victim, violence in itself is the problem. Cruelty and violence are the issue; the species of the victim is to a large degree determined by environment, opportunity and coincidence. Furthermore, cruelty and violence are tolerated, if not encouraged, by society.

Out of this meeting and the talk we gave at that first conference, our two agencies have joined to create the Humane Coalition Against Violence. The role of the coalition has been, essentially, educational. We have conducted a number of significant professional training seminars for child welfare workers, Animal Control and State Humane Officers, social workers, veterinarians and police inspectors. We have also acted as a resource for legislators considering a number of proposed modifications to state and local laws.

When the editor of the LATHAM LETTER approached each of us to author an introductory article on the topic of violence from our individual perspectives, we both readily accepted. As we considered the task, however, we came to see how interesting it might be for each of us to "stretch" to the other's course; for the social worker to speak about animals, and for the animal welfare worker to speak about children. Considering the nature of the topic as well as of the journal, we further agreed that these articles would best be written from a very personal perspective and purposely not intended as scholarly research papers.

Lynn Loar has worked in the field of social work for 10 years and currently is the Educational Coordinator for the San Francisco Child Abuse Council. This private non-profit organization's mandate is to advocate for children in those areas ignored or badly served by the "official sys-

tem." Their programs include training for professionals who work with abused and neglected children, public awareness campaigns, and the development of model programs to address gaps in services.

Examples include a pilot treatment program for sex offenders incarcerated in San Quentin Prison, an interdisciplinary developmental play therapy group, a drama and movement program for sexually abused children and a physical and recreational therapy program for toddlers who were prenatally exposed to drugs. Her article, "Upsetting Comparisons," describes the professional care available to her dog at a time of failing health and compares this to the level of medical care typically provided to a child

removed from a family in crisis.

We both hope you find these articles of interest.

*Kenneth White has worked in the field of animal welfare for 14 years and currently is the Deputy Director for the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control. This municipal government agency is responsible for the care of San Francisco's stray, abandoned, neglected and mistreated companion animals and wildlife, as well as for the enforcement of all local and state animal welfare and anti-cruelty laws. His article, "Watching Ralph Smile," is a personal remembrance of watching one child find something simple and extraordinary.*

See related articles below and on page 5. 

## Upsetting Comparisons

Lynn Loar, Ph.D.

I am a social worker in the Bay Area, one of many working with abused and neglected children. Until recently I was also a pet owner: my dog died at age 14 of cancer. During her lifetime, I lived in North Carolina, Virginia, Washington DC, Maryland, and California. In each location, I found excellent veterinary services for her, all of which charged affordable fees, provided extended hours during the week as well as weekend appointments in convenient locations, and rarely kept me waiting more than five or ten minutes for any scheduled appointment. Emergency care was swift and effective; inquiries and phone calls were promptly returned, and informative and practical advice was routinely given.

When I moved to California some seven years ago, I began using the services of a nearby veterinarian on the recommendation of several friends. Three years after he began to care for my dog, he

surgically removed a small malignant growth from her mouth. Because of his specific knowledge of her health and the excellence of the care he provided, I continued to take my dog to him for treatment even after I moved 30 miles away two years later.

However, when the cancer began to grow into the dog's lungs, I became concerned about having to drive for an hour while she was experiencing difficulty breathing. A veterinary practice in my new locale advertised the availability of house calls, so I set up an appointment. A veterinarian and her assistant came (on time) to my home, took an extensive medical history, did a very thorough exam (mostly with the dog lounging on the couch and enjoying the attention—indeed, apologies were proffered to the dog when she was required to stand after repeated efforts to slide the stethoscope under her belly had failed), reviewed current

*COMPARISONS, continued on page 4*

medications, and explained their rationale for the house call practice, namely that aging dogs and cats should be able to die at home in familiar settings rather than spend their last few hours in the stressful and unpleasant atmosphere of a veterinary office. I was encouraged to keep in touch, call for advice, and was presented with a bill for \$60.00.

When my dog's health began to fail - on a Friday afternoon - my long-time veterinarian said in a telephone call that the dog might have a treatable infection perhaps due to her two years on prednisone, or the cancer might have filled her lungs. Blood work and a urine test were needed to determine the severity of the problem. I next called the veterinarian with the house-call practice who - although she was no longer on the house-call rotation - offered to stop at my home on her way to work at 8:30 Saturday morning to collect urine and blood samples. She said she would do the urine test herself upon arrival at her office and would send the blood sample to the lab in the noon run, with results available on Monday. Based on protein she found in the urine, my dog was started on antibiotics late Saturday morning. The treatment would be reassessed once the results of the blood test were available. My bill for the home visit, tests and medicine came to \$100.00. I made an appointment for Monday afternoon with my primary veterinarian. By the time I arrived, both doctors had been faxed copies of the lab report and had conferred with each other about possibilities for treatment.

While I am glad I was able to provide this quality of care for my beloved dog, I do not understand why so much less is available to the children I work with. The fact that this caliber of veterinary care is readily obtainable to the aver-

age uninsured consumer in so many states suggests that it is certainly possible to provide comparable care at reasonable costs to our children. Let me contrast the experience of providing care for my dog with attempting to seek medical care for abused and neglected children as a social worker with Child Protective Services in an affluent suburban county in the Bay Area.

Adequate medical care, unfortunately, is the exception rather than the rule for our nation's impoverished and uninsured children. Indeed, at least one-fifth of Caucasian and more than one-third of minority children grow up in poverty in our affluent nation. New immigrants, many of whom arrive in ill health, experience deprivation at substantially higher rates.

When a social worker must remove a child from his or her home, it is usually due to an emergency that endangers the child, abandonment by the parent(s), incapacity to care for the child by the parent(s) due to psychiatric dysfunction or drug or alcohol abuse, or ongoing sexual abuse in which the abusing adult has access to the child and non-offending parent is unable or unwilling to protect the child. In the midst of this family crisis a social worker, who is usually a stranger to the child, has to remove the child from his/her home, take the child to the county hospital for a medical examination and then on to a foster home or emergency shelter.

In my experience and that of my colleagues, waits of an hour or two in the hospital for a cursory physical exam (or grueling one if sexual abuse is involved) are not unusual, even though the social worker

notifies the hospital ahead of time that the child is arriving. In addition, although most facilities have a special pediatric waiting room, the often-longer wait at the hospital pharmacy for a prescription (many poorly cared-for children have an untreated ear, throat or lung infection or similar illness) does not, and often exposes children to severely injured and disturbed patients while they wait in the hallway. The medicine must be obtained at the hospital pharmacy as the Medi-Cal paperwork has not been processed yet. Children entering placement are thus

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*I would hope my colleagues would look to our animal welfare counterparts as teachers. We need to learn how they have become so good at their work, and ask their assistance in a combined struggle against violence and neglect affecting any living creature.*

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usually forced to endure four to six hours of transition from a crisis to placement with strangers.

In one case, I removed two small boys whose mother had overdosed on drugs and was taken by ambulance to the emergency room.

The boys and I were waiting (for what turned out to be three hours) for medicine for their ear infections, when they noticed their own mother on a stretcher in the hallway, and overheard contemptuous talk about her and her drug habit by two hospital staff members.

Conscientious foster parents take the newly arrived child to their own pediatrician as soon as the child has made an initial adjustment to their home. Never have I seen records faxed from the former pediatrician, health center or hospital. In fact, it is rarely possible to get basic information on the child's medical history within a week or two. Enrollment in school is the foster parent's neighborhood is frequently delayed when proof of current immunizations is not immediately forthcoming from the former

pediatrician or health center. In frustration, social workers or foster parents often make what should be an unnecessary trip to that doctor's office to obtain the records so that the child can enter school.

Not only is a child's health potentially compromised by the difficulty in obtaining information promptly, but also the child's safety. Even in Silicon Valley, the computerized case records are a dream of a better funded future. Records are still handwritten, and filed by clerks; they are often inaccessible after hours or in emergencies. If a family has moved across county lines, records may be stored in Sacramento (both due to Sacramento's backlog and the counties'). Unless the social worker knows the former county of residence and can prevail on an overworked stranger to pull an old record, the vital information of the severity of prior incidents of abuse or neglect will be unobtainable when the initial decision to remove the child or allow him/her to remain at home must be made.

Through my recent work with the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control, I have come to learn how successful humane workers can be in dealing with abusive and negligent adults. Indeed, they are often more able to resolve their cases than are child welfare and other social workers in similar situations. Rather than bemoan a society that appears to value its dogs and cats above its children, or fall into destructive infighting so common among helping professionals these days due to budgetary shortfalls and decreasing resources, I would hope my colleagues would look to our animal welfare counterparts as teachers. We need to learn how they have become so good at their work, and ask their assistance in a combined struggle against violence and neglect affecting any living creature.



# WATCHING RALPH SMILE

Kenneth White

It's been a bad week, a very bad week. The week began with a cat thrown from a third story window by an "angry" owner. (Hopefully, the cat will heal under our care and, hopefully, the legal system will work cooperatively with us in prosecuting the accused in a felony case of cruelty against animals.) This week's mid-point brought us an abandoned dog whose leather collar was so tight around the flesh of his neck that it had to be surgically removed, exposing a one-inch gouge of rotting tissue and maggots circling his throat. This week ended with a request for assistance from San Francisco Police Officers arresting someone who had settled an argument by using a shotgun. In his apartment they found three animals: a small black kitten dying of neglect, a live rattlesnake whose head had been taped to the bottom on a filthy cage, and a species of arboreal tarantula in a cage furnished with a plastic replica of a human skull.

It's also been a week which predicts that an annual horror is just on the horizon. For most people, the approach of spring is a time for joy; for animal welfare professionals, however, it is the beginning of "kitten season." Throughout the months of "kitten season," we will see somewhere between 30 and 50 kittens brought to our doors every single day. Most of them will be too young to be away from their mothers and many of them will be sick. Even for those healthy, friendly cats, the mathematics work against them—there are simply more animals brought in than there are homes. At this writing, still in winter, several newborn litters have arrived already and the seasonal increase in the number of animals which must be humanely killed is

frighteningly close at hand.

As always there have also been victories this week, each one precious. Twenty-nine lost dogs were returned to their homes and 32 more previously lost, abandoned, neglected or mistreated examples of "man's best friend" were placed with new and caring families. During this week the Department of Animal Care and Control was also able to reunite five lost cats with their anxious caretakers and find home for 34 more.\* But the heavy weight of this week has made it hard for me to take much solace in its high points. At these times I reach back for a very special memory, one which reminds me why I came to work in this field and, frankly, to help me keep going.

In 1977, fresh from graduate school, I was hired as a teaching assistant in a small special education school for adolescent boys. My students were all from very poor inner-city families. All were years behind academically, some barely able to read or write. Many of them had been abused, physically as well as emotionally, and were now in foster care. Depending upon the situation, all could be violent.

Ralph was in many ways the toughest of the bunch. At age 13, he already had his "male bravado pose" firmly in place. His walk was cool, his talk was cool, and his face rarely revealed his thoughts or emotions. On one typically drizzly San Francisco spring day, the teacher and I decided to reward Ralph's unusually cooperative recent behavior with a trip to the beach. One-on-one trips to the beach, me and a kid for the afternoon school session running along the sand looking for shells and rocks, had become a school

*SMILE, continued on page 6*

# Population Boom Poses a Threat

Hugh H. Tebault

Editor's Comment:

The current annual report of the United Nations Population Fund contained an ominous expression concerning the rate of the world's population growth and its attendant, unsustainable consumption of resources. In her concurring statement, executive director Nafis Sadik said that the continued, unrestrained increase of the world's human habitation threatens an economic and ecological catastrophe. Declaring the world population to be of such a crucial factor in environmental destruction, Ms. Sadik called for its serious consideration at the June 1992 Earth Summit Meeting at Brazil.

"Unless you really deal with population, you can forget about environment or about development."

— Nafis Sadik

**HERMAN** by Jim Unger



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favorite. This was the first time Ralph was to be given the opportunity.

We drove by my house for our other companion. Hamish, my big black and brown and very goofy dog, hopped inside the camper shell on the back of my pickup truck ready for the five-minute drive to the beach. He, too, loved these trips.

I was startled to learn during our brief drive that Ralph, a native San Franciscan, had never been to the beach which begins where our City ends. Living at home with his mother along with several other children, Ralph had never seen the Pacific Ocean even though he had spent his entire life just a few minutes from it. He responded to my surprise with a couple of typically sarcastic comments about sand, dirt and water. In reality, this lack of parent interaction was, of course, entirely insignificant in comparison to the real neglect and abuse which made up most of his early life at home.

In San Francisco, one drives right up to this nation's paved Western border, parks and then walks down a few steps onto a narrow beach. At the top of the stairs Ralph became mute and his mouth opened wide. Surprisingly, he grabbed my hand and held on tightly as we walked down the steps onto the sand. Hamish, of course, went nuts, dashing back and forth, barking, and running in and out of the water. But Ralph just stared. Ralph stared at the water so hard and so long that I began to get worried. And, then, without saying a word he started to walk. Like a magnet, the Pacific pulled him straight on. Slowly he walked towards and then into the water. I grabbed him back out as his ankles got soaked and carried him back onto the sand. Then, still without saying a word, he repeated this sleepwalker's stride into the ocean again.

Halfway to the water on Ralph's third strange trip, Hamish, either curious or concerned by this unusual human behavior, interceded in the not-so-subtle manner peculiar to big dogs. He literally threw himself into Ralph, knocking them both down onto the sand. Legs and arms and sand exploded for a second and then everything got very still. Ralph first looked about, and then suddenly burst out with the first real laugh I had ever heard from him. He laughed and laughed and laughed while Hamish pranced about wagging his tail, barking at the air and then licking his young friend.

The rest of the afternoon was wonderful, although Ralph never could put into words what he had felt or thought during those first strange minutes. For the rest of the day, we were three friends enjoying each other and the world around us.

For an afternoon, 15 years ago, I saw Ralph smile. I saw a small, frightened and neglected child enjoy a walk along the beach with a dog. I saw them run and fall and run again. It is Ralph's smile that reminds me why I came to work in this field of people and other animals. After a week like this one, it is Ralph's smile that helps keep me going.

*\* The San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control's Animal Shelter houses approximately 16,000 animals each year. In 1991, a total of 2,115 cats were either reunited with their owners or adopted into new homes and 6,496 were put to death; 2,149 dogs were either reunited their owners or adopted into new homes and 1,476 were put to death; 1,750 "other" animals, including native wildlife, exotic animals and other domestic pets were either returned to their native habitats, reunited with owners or adopted, while 2,235 were put to death.*



## The Shape of Cruelty

Kenneth White

*If cruelty was an object - a thing in and of itself - what shape would it have? How would one recognize it? Certainly not a simple shape. For example, not a line making causal connections between stimulus and response, environment and behavior; nor a circle narrowly and obviously defining itself, distinct from everything outside its circumference.*

Writing about the link between abuse to children and abuse to animals, Dr. Randall Lockwood of the Humane Society of the United States eloquently coins the terms "The Tangled Web" as a way of illustrating the interconnectedness of his subject.\* For our purpose, I prefer to think of children's drawings I've seen of single cell animals observed under a microscope: many limbed amorphous creatures reaching out in every direction, crossing themselves, difficult to describe.

Whatever its shape, cruelty has no beginnings and no endings. If Adolph Hitler and Idi Amin are deep in the center of cruelty's shape, where do we place the person who spansks their child, or the individual who enjoys gratuitous and explicit violence against women in film? We know where to place Dwayne Wright, arrested by the Pennsylvania SPCA for pouring lye onto six dogs "just to see the dogs suffer" according to their investigative report, but where do we fit the factory farm owner or even the diner sitting down to a meal of steak and lobster. Cruelty has no beginnings or endings but it surely touches us all, both as victims and as perpetrators.

This tangled web or this

many-limbed and fluid creature has, of late, been the topic of study to look at the interconnectedness of violence against animals and children. Consider the following, just a few examples of many:

- Albert DeSalvo, better known as the "Boston Strangler" who savagely killed 13 women in the early 1960's, had as a child trapped dogs and cats in orange crates and shot arrows into the boxes.
- Carrol Edward Cole, executed in 1985 as one of this country's most prolific mass murderers. His first recorded act of violence as a child was to strangle a cat
- Ted Bundy, executed in 1989 for one of as many as 50 murders, claimed that he spent much of his childhood with his grandfather torturing animals. Evidence also links Bundy to graves filled with animal bones in Utah.

After review of the literature available, I offer the following:

- that victims of child abuse will look for victims of their own, whether while still children or as adults, and that certainly a small animal makes a convenient target;
- the link between abuse of animals as a child and violent behavior as an adult is frighteningly well documented;
- that violence against animals can be seen as a predictor or even a training ground for future violent acts against people.

Although the question may appear ridiculous to many of us, if some myopic individual wants to know why we are so worried about animals when children are suffering, it is fair to answer that although the victims are different the phenomena are inseparable. To dismiss concern for either children or

animals only hurts the promise of a better future for both.

Although recognition of horrible realities can initially paralyze one, it is these beliefs which led Dr. Lynn Loar of the San Francisco Child Abuse Council and me to form the Humane Coalition Against Violence (HCAV). Working cooperatively with other professionals from both animal welfare and child protective services I present the following chronology of some of our activities, in part as an example of what is possible for other communities.

**October 1990:** HCAV forms the basis of a workshop on the topic "Violence. Its Human and Animal Victims" at the annual national conference of the Humane Society of the United States.

**December 1990:** HCAV speaker delivers the keynote address to the meeting of the California Animal Control Directors' Association.

**February 1991:** HCAV author publishes a guide for animal welfare workers on how to assess and report suspicions of child abuse and neglect, in the professional journal CHAIN ("California Humane Action and Information Network").

**April 1991:** HCAV joins the faculty of the California State Humane Officers Training Academy for animal welfare and anti-cruelty law enforcement professionals.

**July 1991:** HCAV presents a basic course on how to assess and report suspicions of child abuse and neglect for San Francisco Bay Area State Humane and Animal Control Officers.

**August 1991:** HCAV meets with the San Francisco Department of Social Services Emergency Response Unit Program to develop a protocol for cases involving neglected or abused children and animals.

**August 1991:** HCAV contributes to an article entitled "Is There A Difference Between

Animal Abuse and Child Abuse?" published in the professional journal ANIMAL WARDS.

**September 1991:** HCAV conducts training for San Francisco Police Department Juvenile Crimes Division.

**November 1991:** HCAV meets with representatives of the Children's Advocacy Institute and the Humane Society of the United States to formulate a legislative agenda with the expectation of adding Animal Control and State Humane Officers to the list of mandated reporters of suspected child abuse.

**January 1992:** At the invitation of THE LATHAM FOUNDATION, HCAV speakers open the second day of a California conference on animal issues held at the University of California Davis.

**January 1992:** HCAV meets with the legislative aide to a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to discuss model legislation.

**February 1992:** HCAV conducts a workshop at a statewide conference sponsored by the California Consortium for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

**March 1992:** HCAV addresses the California Veterinary Medical Association House of Delegates.

**March 1992:** HCAV addresses the Public Safety Committee of the California State Assembly on behalf of a bill proposed by Assemblyman Jack O'Connell which would add Animal Control and State Humane Officers to the list of mandated reports of suspected child abuse.

**April 1992:** HCAV addresses State Humane Officers Training Academy. Scheduled in the near future: the Humane Coalition Against Violence will also be featured presenters on the topic of cruelty against children and animals at conferences sponsored by the American Humane Association, the California Animal Control Directors' Association, the Humane Society of

the United States, and the Latham Foundation.

*\* Author's Note: Dr. Lockwood's "Training Key #392" developed for the International Association of Chiefs of Police and his article "The Tangled Web" (co-authored with Guy Hodge and published in HSUS' Summer 1986 "Humane Society News") are two vital documents on the subject of violence against animals and people. I owe a great deal to Dr. Lockwood's thoughts on this topic, expressed both in writing and in personal communication.*



— KW

*CCN, continued from page 1*

carrying capacity concern. Given the current political climate, our coverage of this controversial topic may require an explanation.

There is little disagreement that virtually every major problem now facing the United States becomes more difficult to solve as our population, of which immigration is a large part, increases annually. The U.S. is now the fastest-growing industrialized nation in the world, adding approximately 3 million people to its population every year. Conservative estimates show that 1-1.2 million of that figure are a direct result of immigration from foreign countries. Other reasonable estimates put the number nearer to 50% or 1.5 million a year with legal immigration comprising over 1 million of that number. The uncertainty results from the difficulty of determining precisely net illegal immigration.

The increase in human numbers poses the ultimate environmental threat. Continual population growth inevitably entails increased resource consumption and exacerbates such problems as air and water pollution, traffic congestion, habitat loss, infrastructure decay, and urban sprawl. Residential areas encroach on farmland and

wilderness. Energy demand encroaches on seashores, caribou mating grounds, and fragile deserts. As we all know, the list goes on. In light of the foregoing, since population growth is an environmental issue, a crucial component, immigration, must be recognized as one also.

Demographers point out that immigrants tend to have more of an impact on future population growth than the average American. Fertility rates are typically higher among immigrants, and population growth exponentially for generations with each child born beyond the replacement level of 2.1.<sup>2</sup> For example, in California, which receives at least a third of all immigrants, the fertility rate reached 2.48 in 1989, and continues to rise rapidly at an accelerating rate.<sup>3</sup>

The fact that U.S. immigration policy makes every attempt to reunite families reflects a commendable intent. However, for every one

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*Several environmental groups make specific policy recommendations to substantially reduce immigration.*

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immigrant who chooses to come to the United States and to become a United States citizen, a whole family becomes legally eligible for U.S. citizenship. The "pierceable cap" provisions of the 1990 Immigration Act mean effectively that there are no limits on family categories, thus there is the potential for virtually unlimited "chain migration" as additional relatives continually become eligible. Considering these facts, it is not surprising that the United States takes in more legal immigrants than the rest of the countries in the world combined. Immigration therefore may well have

*CCN, continued on page 8*

a much greater impact on U.S. population growth than policy makers have realized.

In addition to the environmental consequences, there are other effects as well. For example, as far as Federal and state "budgetary carrying capacity" is concerned, immigration costs American taxpayers at least \$3,000,000,000 annually, not including jobs, wages, and taxes lost due to employment displacement.

Few organizations in the environmental community have directly addressed the issue of immigration even though it has a significant impact on our rapidly growing numbers (both when people initially arrive and as they affect our rising fertility rate as they remain here). Reasons for doing so vary from not seeing immigration as a significant problem, to fear or losing funding or alienating a part of their membership by becoming too politically controversial in an area they believe to be outside of their primary focus.

Since publicly identifying immigration as an environmental and carrying capacity issue is difficult, those environmental and population groups which recognize the threat population growth poses to the environment have dealt with the issue in a number of ways. National Audubon Society, which has come out in favor of U.S. population stabilization, indicates that it is dealing with immigration "at the source" by lobbying for increased funding for international population programs, thereby reducing the incentive to emigrate from countries experiencing the effects of rampant, unsustainable population

growth. Audubon, however, "does not believe in closing borders." Zero Population Growth also advocates that the U.S. adopt a policy to stabilize U.S. population. Although ZPG feels that a U.S.

policy would have to consider immigration as well as birth rates and emigration as factors of population growth, it does not specifically address immigration or advocate any particular limit on immigration

numbers.

Several environmental groups do make specific policy recommendations to substantially reduce immigration.

Population-Environmental Balance focuses primarily on the necessity to stabilize the U.S. population and is outspoken on immigration reform. It advocates reducing legal immigration to "replacement level," that is, allowing the same number to come in as the number who leave every year - about 200,000.

For BALANCE, the numbers and their environmental impact are what count; they take no position on who should be allowed in. BALANCE points out that to stabilize our population it is logically necessary that we achieve and maintain both replacement-level immigration and replacement-level fertility. Such a policy would help sending countries as well, BALANCE indicates, by serving as an incentive for them to live within their own carrying capacity limits and as a disincentive to high fertility

rates and the brain drain to the United States. BALANCE also points out that because desired family sizes in many of the fastest-growing countries of the world greatly exceed replacement level, immigration limitation is an essential complement to increased international family planning aid.

Negative Population Growth (NPG) maintains that the U.S. has already exceeded its population carrying capacity and that the U.S. optimal population size would be about 100 to 150 million. NPG calls for using incentives such as tax credits for small families to reduce fertility rates to below replacement levels, achieving replacement level legal immigration and halting illegal immigration, while at the same time assisting other countries in an effort to stabilize their populations.

Indeed, one of the most renowned environmentalists of the 20th Century, Senator Gaylord Nelson, father of the original Earth Day and primary sponsor of the legislation which led to the creation of national wilderness areas, agrees that "the population of the United States already exceeds its carrying capacity." He notes that im-

migration policy should be openly and thoroughly discussed since "we can't handle a large population influx and still maintain a decent quality environment." In his view, rather than avoid-

ing a real debate by simply allowing high numbers, Congress should say: "We're seeking to stabilize the population. We will allow immigration in numbers that do not exceed emigration."<sup>4</sup>

CCN believes everyone

should have adequate information on which to come to an objective decision on immigration policy in light of the impact our rapidly growing numbers have on our environment. Demographic reality cannot be ignored if we are to solve our environmental problems and safeguard our carrying capacity for future generations.

If current growth rates, including current immigration levels, continue, U.S. population will double to over 500 million by the middle of the next century. This leaves all of us with a range of policy options to consider. We can continue our current immigration policy and channel our resources toward international population assistance, in which case U.S. population would not stabilize unless world population stabilizes. A second option would be to halt immigration, or at least lower it to replacement level, in order to get our own carrying capacity house in order so we can provide an example for the rest of the world. A third option might be an amalgam of the first two options which would entail replacement level or lower immigration combined with a large-scale effort to help developing countries stabilize their populations. Do we have any other choice than to act immediately on all aspects of population growth?

The question remains: can environmentalists and others concerned with carrying capacity issues continue to largely avoid coming to grips with immigration policy? What are your answers? As a nation, tough decisions are before us.

<sup>1</sup> Center for Immigration Studies

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census

<sup>3</sup> California Department of Finance

<sup>4</sup> *FACUS*, Winter 1992

The above article appeared in the April 1992 issue of the Carrying Capacity Network's

*Immigration may well have a much greater impact on U.S. population growth than policy makers have realized.*

*Demographic reality cannot be ignored if we are to solve our environmental problems and safeguard our carrying capacity for future*

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The Carrying Capacity Network is a nonprofit, non-partisan activist network which facilitates cooperation and information dissemination among organizations that work on carrying capacity stabilization, and resource conservation.

Carrying capacity refers to the number of individuals who can be supported without degrading the physical, ecological, cultural and social environment, i.e. without reducing the ability to sustain the desired quality of life over the long term.



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*If there is a correlation between violence to children and animals, might both fields gain from working together? Perhaps by rediscovering their roots, child and animal-protection groups could gain by sharing their limited resources.*

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# American Humane Association Releases Report on Its November 1991 Summit on Violence Towards Children and Animals

## Introduction to the AHA Report

Phil Arkow

Philosophers such as Thomas Aquinas, Immanuel Kant, and others have argued for centuries the belief that cruel treatment of animals and cruelty to fellow human beings were somewhat related. In the century-and-a-quarter since the humane movement came to the United States, it has become apparent that there are clear, if undefined, connections between abuse of children and cruelty to animals. Ironically, laws to protect animals preceded child protection laws. Within a decade of the formation of the first animal protection organization in America in 1866, societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals expanded the scope of their concern to include children as well, which led many social reform groups to change their names to "humane societies" to reflect the broader scope of protective activities.

The charter of the American Humane Association, founded in 1877, had the established purpose of preventing cruelty, "especially to children and animals." Dr. William O. Stillman, American Humane's President from 1905-1924, launched nationwide humane education programs to teach children to be kind to animals under the intuitive, though undocumented, assumption that persons who exhibit mercy to

animals will become more compassionate toward their fellow humans.

About 25 years ago, the first scientific reports appeared documenting what had been widely assumed: that a child's perpetration of cruelty to animals could foreshadow future destructive behaviors. The research was augmented by dramatic anecdotal experiences in which several murderers and serial killers were found to have committed acts of cruelty to animals in their childhood which were not taken seriously or recognized as precursors of future violent acts.

Meanwhile, organizations for the prevention of cruelty to children and animals, though linked historically and philosophically, began to separate operationally. With the medical identification of the Battered Child Syndrome in the 1960's, federal funding became available to establish a nationwide network of mandated public child protective systems.

Humane groups divested themselves of child protection and returned to their initial animal protection activities. Animal control programs were institutionalized and viewed as important to the protection of public health and safety. Private humane organizations, which operated on private donations, were seen as purveyors of a humane ideal and not necessarily essential to human concerns. But along the way something was lost: the recognition that abusive behavior toward any living being springs from the same sources, and might be alleviated by collaborative efforts of

all concerned agencies.

By the opening of the 1990's, violence in all forms emerged as a major issue in America. American children were being exposed to pervasive and desensitizing community violence. They were learning that the home, popularly thought of as a haven, was often the site of abuse and neglect. Random gunplay and drug wars were raising inner-city homicide rates to levels comparable to those of war-torn countries. A cycle of violence passed from generation to generation was indicated.

Meanwhile, pet ownership, and the inevitable cases of neglect and cruelty, were hitting record levels. Animal shelters were inundated with epidemic numbers of cast-off animals, victims of a "throw-away society." Enforcement of animal protection laws was given low priority and prosecutions of cruelty cases were only sporadically pursued, even when overwhelming violence was involved. Humane educators' efforts to teach respect for the living environment and instill the ability to empathize with others increased, but did not come close to filling the need.

The growing scientific evidence of the link between cruelty to animals and other forms of violent behavior was not widely known by the public, the judiciary, law enforcement officials, or even the social service agencies that investigated such incidents. Resources to combat violence were split in many directions (child, spouse, animals, elderly, adult-to-adult crime)

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and suffered from lack of coordination.

Perhaps a new perspective was needed. Social scientists were paying increasing attention to all forms of family violence, including abuse and neglect of children, spouses and elders; since more than half of American households have pets, it was argued, isn't cruelty to animals another form of family violence? If there is a correlation between violence to children and animals, might both fields gain from working together? Should a more systematic understanding of the nature of violence and a cohesive, coordinated community approach to intervention, prevention, and the reaching of nurturance be sought?

Perhaps by rediscovering their roots, child-and animal-protection groups could gain by sharing their limited resources.

Local community coalitions began to appear around the country to study the links between child and animal abuse and to establish innovative partnerships for training and treatment. With escalating numbers of reports of violence, the time was right to address these issues systemically on a national level, to compile scientific data and support model programs which intervene to stop the cycle of violence.

For a copy of the complete summit report, contact:

**The American Humane Association**

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# Link Between Animal Cruelty and Child Abuse Described at AHA Summit

## *Piecing Together the Picture of Abuse*

Cathy M. Rosenthal

*In Washington, DC, animal cruelty investigators visited a house to verify a neglected dog complaint. They found much worse.*

The home was in disarray; refuse was knee-deep throughout the house where not only animals but children and a debilitated grandmother lived. The children reported walking to the local convenience store to wash and use the bathroom because theirs was no longer functioning. The grandmother had obviously not been moved from her bed in some time.

The investigators removed the animals from the home and immediately contacted the local child welfare agency. The agency would never have known of the conditions in the house if the animal cruelty investigators had not told them.

This back door approach to detecting child abuse was the topic of AHA Summit on the child/animal abuse link held in Denver last November. At this unprecedented three-day session, AHA brought together more than 30 concerned animal and child welfare experts to discuss links between child abuse and animal cruelty and develop collaborative strategies for intervention and prevention.

"What was surprising was the enthusiasm from the people working on the child protection side," said Carol Moulton, associate director of Animal Protection at AHA. "They were very excited about what the link could mean for early detection of problems in the home."

"While limited research has been done on the relationship between child and

animal maltreatment," said Tricia England, research analyst for AHA's Child Protection Division, "a few studies and many anecdotal reports suggest that a relationship does exist. We already know that when one form of mal-treatment is present, we must be sensitive to the possibility of other forms of maltreatment."

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*"We already know that when one form of maltreatment is present, we must be sensitive to the possibility of other forms of maltreatment."*

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## **A Cooperative Approach**

One of a growing number of agencies in the country actively responding to this issue is the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control. Their cooperative relationship with the San Francisco Child Abuse Council has resulted in cross-training programs. Animal cruelty investigators are taught to recognize the signs of child abuse, while social workers and police officers learn the symptoms of animal cruelty and neglect.

"If an animal control or state humane officer enters a home and suspects the children are being abused, they report it to the police department," said Ken White, Deputy Director of the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control.

"And if the police enter a home and feel an animal is being abused, they call us. We're even working to introduce state legislation to put animal care and control investigators on the list of professionals required to report suspected child abuse." According to Moulton, "By working together, social service and animal welfare agencies can report their findings to each other, and hopefully protect children and animals from this cycle of violence."

## **A Proven Connection**

In a study of 57 families being treated for incidents of child abuse by New Jersey's Division of Youth and Family Services, researchers found animal cruelty present in 88 percent of these families. And in about two-thirds of those cases, the abusive parent had killed or injured an animal to discipline a child, another form of child abuse.

Studies also show that most violent criminals share a history of brutal parental punishment and cruelty to animals. Researchers believe that children exposed to animal cruelty may themselves be abused, and may continue the pattern of cruelty into adulthood.

Childhood animal cruelty may signify families in trouble and indicate future aggressive behavior. "If we recognized excessive animal abuse as an indicator of future violent behavior," said Moulton, "we may be able to intervene before the abusive behavior is directed towards people." Intervention may mean developing programs that offer children a chance to relate with animals.

# Compassion for all Creatures: Putting the Abuse of Animals and Children in Historical Perspective

Michael Robin / Robert ten Bense!

*"I burned with the urge to read what the philosophers had to say about God, the world, time, space, and most of all, why people and animals must suffer so. This to me was the question of questions."*

— Isaac Bashevis Singer

One such program, Green Chimneys in New York, lets children who are emotionally impaired, learning disabled or who are juvenile offenders, nurture and care for animals. At the center, the children interact with 150 animals including pigs, goats, chickens and horses.

The goal of Green Chimneys is to build a child's self-esteem and create a nurturing and caring individual. The children experience the therapeutic value of providing, in part, for the animals' daily care, including caring for the "house" dog of each dormitory.

## Creating an Awareness

AHA's Summit, funded by the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, ended with recommendations on how to develop further studies and cooperative programs between the child and animal welfare fields.

"We want to create an awareness of this abusive link," said Moulton. "Future meetings will enable us to influence and involve the nation's policy makers and leaders in collaborative efforts to prevent violence."

*Cathy Rosenthal is the American Humane Association's Communications Coordinator. The above article appeared in the Fall 1991 Advocate.*

## Editor's Note:

As a follow-up to their Summit, the American Humane Association recently announced plans for a National Conference on Violence to Children and Animals. The invitation-only conference is scheduled for mid-September, 1992, in Washington, DC.



Attitudes about how animals should be treated have been greatly influenced by the notion derived from our Judeo-Christian heritage that human's were fully entitled to use animals for their own benefit. Having no moral duties towards the "brute creation," people were allowed to kill animals for food and clothing, domesticate animals for agricultural use or transportation, or use them for "sport" or "entertainments" such as bear-baiting, cockfighting, etc. While there have always been individuals who have expressed concern for the unnecessary suffering of animals, such sentiment would not alter the actual treatment of animals until the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Before then it was taken for granted that animals had no rights. Humans were not obligated to show kindness for animals because, as Hobbes said, "to make covenants with brute beasts is impossible." If cruelty to animals was to be avoided, it was usually for economic reasons or because of the assumed effects on human relations (Thomas, 1983).

Man's right to absolute dominion over animals was reflected in the poem written in 1735 by William Somerville.

The brute creation are his property,

*Subservient to his will,  
and for  
him made.  
As hurtful these he kills,  
as useful those  
preserves; their sole and  
arbitrary king.*

The ideal of human ascendancy over animals had profound consequences not only for the treatment of animals, but also for human relationships as well. The ancients believed in justice and kindness to others, but this sentiment did not extend to all members of the human community. As Thomas (1983) points out, the "dominion" God gave Adam over animals formed the mental analogue by which social and political relations were to be arranged. The ancients believed the world was properly hierarchical. Men would rule over women just as the master did over the slave.

And the status of children was compared to that of slaves, who were seen as little more than "useful beasts." Within the doctrine of Patria Potestas (Father as absolute authority), children had no legal rights separate from their fathers and were afforded no protection from them. As Aristotle wrote, "The justice of a master or a father is a different thing from that of a citizen, for a son or a slave is property and there can be no injustice to one's own property."

Consequently, throughout much of western history, children have been afforded little protection from the whims and vagaries of adult society. Noting the history of childhood is "a nightmare from which we have only begun to awaken," de Mause (1974) has extensively documented the killing, abandonment, physical abuse and sexual

abuse that children have experienced through much of history. As we will show, the concepts of children's rights and child protection are relatively recent phenomenon.

## Cruelty to Animals

Thomas notes in his classic study, *Man and the Natural World* (1983), that gratuitous cruelty to animals was frequently condemned by moralists from the ancient world, through the Middle Ages, to the early modern era. The basis of this claim however, was not that animal cruelty was wrong in itself, but that cruelty to animals had a "brutalizing effect on human character and made men cruel to each other." One of the earliest writers to theorize on the consequences of cruelty to animals was the Roman poet Ovid, who wrote, "Twas slaughter of wild beasts me thinks, that makes man first with blood to stain his cool blade" (cited in Montaigne, 1963). The Romans, who were fond of using animals for sport and killing in the Colosseum, would later use humans for the same purposes. As Montaigne observed, "At Rome after the people had been accustomed to the slaughter of animals, they proceeded to that of men and gladiators. Men of bloodthirsty nature where animals are concerned display a natural propensity to cruelty" (Montaigne, 1953).

Singer (1990) suggests that Saint Thomas Aquinas (1225-

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1274) may be considered the most representative thinker regarding the appropriate treatment of animals prior to the reformation. In Aquinas' view, there was nothing inherently wrong for man to use animals for his own purposes. But Aquinas did argue that, "If any passage in Holy Scripture seems to forbid us to be evil to brute animals ... that is either ... through being cruel to animals one become cruel to human beings or because injury to an animal leads to the temporal hurt of man" (cited in Thomas, 1983). Animals, according to Aquinas, were properly outside of the moral frame of reference of humans. If God wanted people to be kind to animals, it was primarily to encourage compassion and tenderness among humans (Serpell, 1986).

Another influential person who theorized on the human consequences of cruelty to animals was the great English artist, William Hogarth (1697-1764). Hogarth was well known for condemning in his paintings some of the reigning vices of his day: cockfighting, bear baiting, and setting animals on each other. Hogarth was appalled by the cruelty to both animals and children. He demonstrated his close affinity to animals by placing his dog "Trump" prominently in the foreground of his self-portrait. Hogarth's *Four States of Cruelty* (1751) was produced as a means of focusing attention on the high incidence of crime and violence in his day. The four drawings trace the evolution of cruelty to animals as a child, to the beating of a disabled horse as a young man, to the killing of a woman and finally to the death of the protagonist himself. As Hogarth declared in 1738, "I am a professional enemy to persecution of all kinds whether against man or beast" (Lindsay, 1979).

Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592) was one of the first writers in the early modern

period to oppose cruelty to animals as a wrong in itself (Singer, 1990). A man of unusual sensitivity for his time, Montaigne wrote in his essay, *On Cruelty*, "For my part I could not even witness without distress the pursuing and killing of a harmless and defenseless animal that has done us no injury. And I have always been pained by the common sight of a stag, weak and panting, reduced to surrender and cast itself on the mercy of its pursuers, with tears in its eyes" (Montaigne, 1953). Montaigne went on to argue that humans owed "kindness to the other creatures that are capable of receiving it. There is a certain commerce and mutual obligation between them and ourselves."

To Montaigne, man's assumed superiority to animals was a "vanity of the imagination" and a "disease" of presumption (Serpell, 1986).

But Montaigne's sensitivity towards animals was an unusual one, and it would be nearly two centuries before the sentiment he articulated would inform and influence practical changes in the treatment of animals. Far more representative of the tenor of the times was the views of the French philosopher and mathematician Rene Descartes (1595-1650). Descartes argued that animals were as machines, without the ability to reason, to communicate, or to feel pleasure or pain. Moreover, Descartes held that it was only humans, not animals, who had souls. Descartes views had the effect of absolving humans of any responsibility for causing pain

or suffering to animals (Thomas, 1983; Serpell, 1986).

As Serpell (1986) points out, from the Middle Ages to the nineteenth century, England had a well deserved reputation for gratuitous violence towards animals. Englishmen of all social classes seemed to enjoy the

value. Gradually animals who had sentimental, but no productive value were allowed to enter the house as "pets" (Thomas, 1983). Serpell (1986) concluded that the growing popularity of pets as companion animals helped promote an increasing concern for the welfare of animals in general.



*Happiness is a small child and a warm puppy ... however, research shows both child and animal abuse often occur in the same situation.*

baiting of badgers, bulls, bears, cockfighting, and the "drawing up" of dogs with fireworks. John Houghton (1694) wrote that bear baiting is "a sport the English much delight in, and not only the baser sort, but the greatest ladies." However by the 1800's, legislation would be proposed in England to prevent the "malicious and wanton cruelty" to animals. And in 1824, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was formed.

#### The Rise of Pet Keeping

Until the eighteenth century, there was relatively little awareness of the suffering of animals as an issue in itself. The growing sensibility that animals deserved to be protected from unnecessary suffering was linked to the growth of towns, where animals had little utilitarian

The rise of pet keeping had profound consequences for social attitudes about animals. There are three features that distinguish pets from other animals. They are allowed into the house, they are given individual personal names, and they are never eaten (Thomas, 1983). Closer proximity to animals allowed for the development of sentimental relations between humans and animals. Humans came to appreciate that animals had capacities for intelligence, sagacity, character, personality, and feeling. In addition, the close attachments that were created made it abundantly clear that animals did indeed experience pain and suffering, and were entitled to moral consideration. Man's closer relationships to animals and his tendency to anthropomorphize or humanize his pet animal helped create the

foundation for Darwin's view that the differences between humans and animals were mostly one of degree. It was not coincidental, as Thomas (1983) points out, that many advocates for animal rights had affectionate relationships with pet animals.

Turner (1980) wrote in his book, *Reckoning with the Beast*, the new awareness that animals had "feelings," helped promote the idea that animals had the right to be free from gratuitous violence. For centuries, moral indifference to the suffering of animals was justified by the fact that animals lacked language and the ability to reason. But to the English philosopher and jurist Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832), "The question is not, can they reason? Nor, can they talk? But can they suffer?" Thomas (1983) wrote that the sentiment of the day considered that man was completely entitled to domesticate or kill animals for food and clothing, but he was not to tyrannize animals or cause them unnecessary suffering.

This new sentiment was part of what Turner called a "distinctly modern sensibility," that emphasized compassion for all beings that suffered. In fact, the first book-length treatment on the human obligation to be kind to animals was published in 1776 by the Reverend Dr. Humphrey Primatt. In his book, *A Dissertation on the Duty of Mercy and Sin of Cruelty to Brute Animals*, Primatt argued it was no justification that because humans had greater mental powers than animals, they should be allowed to mistreat them. After all, "pain is pain, whether it be inflicted on man or on beast" (cited in Turner, 1980). To Primatt, all beings were part of the "divine machinery of nature," and all had "similar nerves and organs of sensation," so the infliction of unnecessary pain was a terrible wrong (Turner, 1980).

### The Abuse of Children

The greater awareness of animal suffering in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries coincided with increasing awareness of the abuse of children. According to de Mause, a large percentage of children born before the eighteenth century would today be called "battered children." Severe physical discipline had become so commonplace that when a 17th century theologian tried to convey to a group of children a sense of Heaven and Hell, he described heaven as a place where children "would never be beaten anymore" and Hell was "worse than a thousand whippings" (cited in Stone, 1977).

Severe discipline of children was justified on the basis that social order and salvation depended on the ability of parents to maintain family discipline and authority. Calvinist doctrine emphasized the importance of suppressing the innate willfulness and sinfulness of children. As the Dutch minister, John Robinson wrote, "Surely there is in all children ... a stubbornness, a stoutness of mind arising from natural pride, which must in the first place be broken and beaten down. Children should not know, if it could be kept from them, that they have a will of their own, but in their parent's keeping" (cited in Stone, 1977). So closely was the treatment of children and animals connected that the raising of children in the seventeenth century was frequently equated with the breaking in of young horses: "As a spur makes a horse run, so makes a child learn" (Stone, 1977).

By the eighteenth century, European and American societies were becoming more "child centered." According to de Mause, the first evidence of children not being beaten at all dates from the period 1691 to 1750. Before that time virtually all child-rearing tracts advocate severe corporal punishment as a means of correcting the behavior of chil-

dren. Even such great teachers as Beethoven, Milton, and Pestalozzi regularly beat their students for academic lapses or misbehavior. Montaigne again was an exception who argued that flogging children severely had no other effect than "to weaken and cower the soul or make it more maliciously stubborn and antagonistic."

By the eighteenth century, the Calvinist notion that children were innately depraved was superseded by the environmentalist theory that children were born neither good nor bad. John Locke wrote in his seminal book, *Some Thoughts on Education* (1693) that children were born a *tabula rasa*, a blank slate, and were shaped by human experience. Locke argued for moderation in all forms of child-rearing. He argued that "fear and awe ought to give you the first power over their minds and love and friendship in upper years to hold it."

The Genevan philosopher, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, took Locke's beliefs a step further by asserting the essential innocence of children. One of the first writers of great stature to call attention to the special needs and rights of children, Rousseau astounded the world by not only disclaiming the belief that children were depraved but by also claiming that they were born innocent and corrupted by society's institutions. Rousseau was fascinated by the process of child development and in his classic study, *Emile* asks us to "love childhood, indulge its games, its pleasures, and its loveable nature. Why take from those little innocents the pleasure of a time so short which ever escapes them? Nature wants children to be children before they are men" (Rousseau, 1969).

The ultimate story of how concern for animals led to a system of protective services for children centers around Henry Bergh (1813-1888), who founded the New York Soci-

ety for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. He was the son of a rich New York shipbuilder and Jacksonian Democrat. Well educated and a man of leisure, Bergh was appointed by President Lincoln in 1863 as the Secretary of the American Legation in St. Petersburg, Russia. He was horrified by the Russians' barbarous treatment of animals, especially the whipping of horses, and resigned his post in October, 1864. During his return trip to America, he stopped in London and visited a meeting of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals during the spring of 1865. Upon his return to New York, Bergh enlisted the support of New York's elite for an anticruelty society. Actively publicizing the effects of cruelty to animals, he delivered a paper in February, 1866, on *Statistics Relating to the Cruelties Practiced on Animals*. He petitioned the New York Legislature for an act of incorporation, and it was granted on April 10, 1866. On April 22, 1866, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was formally organized in New York.

### The Case of Mary Ellen

Born in 1866 and a ward of the New York Department of Charities, 8-year-old Mary Ellen was in the care of foster parents when a charity worker named Etta Wheeler discovered the poor suffering child. Mrs. Wheeler turned to the police who refused to aid Mary Ellen, claiming that there was no proof of a crime. She was additionally rebuffed by the Department of Charities, since they did not have legal custody over Mary Ellen. Finally, Mrs. Wheeler enlisted Henry Bergh as an advocate for little Mary Ellen. Contrary to legend, Mary Ellen's case did not reach the court because she was declared an animal and in need of protection. Rather, the

*PERSPECTIVE, continued on page 14*

case was accepted due to a large extent to the considerable personal influence of Bergh, who was acting as a humane citizen, not as a representative of the SPCA (Costin, 1992).

In the courtroom, Mary Ellen made the following statement:

*My father and mother are both dead. I don't know how old I am. I have no recollection of a time when I did not live with the Connollys ... I have never had but one pair of shoes, but I cannot recollect when that was ... I have never been allowed to go out of the room where the Connollys were, except in the night time, and then only in the yard ... I am never allowed to play with any children, or to have company whatever. Mama [Mrs. Connolly] has been in the habit of whipping and beating me almost every day ... I have no recollection of ever having been kissed by anyone - have never been kissed by mamma.*

As a result of the trial, Mary Ellen was removed from the custody of her foster parents and placed in an orphanage called "The Sheltering Arms," and Mrs. Connolly was found guilty of assault and battery and sent to prison for one year. At that time, there were no laws specifically protecting children from abuse inasmuch as there was still widespread acceptance of corporal discipline and parental prerogatives in disciplining children. Mary Ellen's case had the effect of awakening a complacent society to the horror of excessive and unreasonable force in controlling children (Costin, 1991).

Sitting through the trial was a young police reporter named Jacob Riis, who was to become famous for his work in exposing the plight of abused and neglected children. Riis wrote of his experiences of April 9, 1874, "I saw a child brought in, carried in

a horse blanket, at the sight of which men wept aloud, and I heard the story of little Mary Ellen told again, that stirred the soul of a city and roused the conscience of a world that had forgotten, and as I looked, I knew I was where the first chapter of the children's rights were being written."

Following this case, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (SPCC) was formed in 1875. In the next two decades, protective service agencies for children proliferated, and by the turn of the century, there were more than 250 such societies around the country. In many instances, societies for the protection of cruelty to animals took on the added role of protecting children and renamed themselves - Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Children. As one agency said, "The protection of children and the protection of animals are combined because the principal involved, i.e., their helplessness, is the same; because all life is the same, differing only in degree of development and expression; and because each profits by association with the other" (cited in Costin, 1992).

"Child-saving," as it was called then, was part of the great humanitarian reform movement that followed the Civil War. In addition to movements to protect the rights of labor, women, and animals in the Progressive era, protection of children from parental abuse and neglect received stronger social sanctions, and legislation was developed that allowed greater intervention into private homes

#### Contemporary Concerns

The notion that cruelty to animals might have a disabling effect on human character has continued to fascinate scholars. In 1952, John Bowlby observed that "cruelty to animals and other children is a characteristic, though not common, feature

of the affectionless psychopath." Margaret Mead (1964) also suggested that childhood cruelty to animals may be a precursor to anti-social violence as an adult. In another study, Brittain (1970) found there is sometimes a history of extreme cruelty to animals among sadistic murderers.

This idea is supported by the observation that some of our societies most notorious criminals had histories of brutalizing animals as children. David Berkowitz, the infamous "Son of Sam" murderer in New York and Kenneth Bianchi, the "Hillside Strangler" in Los Angeles were said to have hated animals, particularly dogs, and committed various cruelties towards animals in their youths. The "Boston Strangler," Albert DeSalvo also trapped dogs and cats in orange crates and then for his amusement, shot arrows into the crates (cited in Kellert & Felthous, 1985).

And in some instances, violent and disturbed persons have had their pets killed as punishment for some presumed misdeed. In September of 1991, a Minneapolis man, John Jolley admitted sexually assaulting and killing an 8-year-old girl. At his trial, Jolley and his brother and sister testified that they all were the victims of severe beatings from their father. Jolley's sister stated at the trial, "he always told us there was no way to get away from him. If we tried, he said he'd hunt us down like dogs and kill us." On one occasion, Jolley's father in a fit of rage, destroyed the pet insect collection Jolley had been cultivating (Mpls. Star and Tribune, May 15, 1992).

Scientific studies also suggest there is a meaningful relationship between patterns of repeated cruelty to animals in childhood and anti-social and violent behavior in adulthood. Several studies (Hellman & Blackman, 1966; Tapia, 1971; Felthous, 1980; Kellert & Felthous, 1985; Felthous &

Kellert, 1987) have shown that children who were cruel to animals and who also had histories of enuresis and fire setting were at high risk for later anti-social violence.

These studies found extreme parental cruelty among those who were cruel to animals. As Erich Fromm has noted in his study, *The Anatomy of Human Destructiveness* (1972), persons who are sadistic tend themselves to be victims of terroristic punishment. Fromm defines this as punishment that is not limited in intensity, is not related to any specific misbehavior, is arbitrary and is fed by the punisher's own sadism.

While most children are usually sensitive to the misuse of pets, for some severely abused or disturbed children, pets represent someone they can gain some power and control over. As Schowalter (1983) has said, "No matter how put upon or demeaned one feels, it is still often possible to kick the dog." Cruelty to animals thus represents a displacement of aggression from humans to animals. Severely abused children, lacking in the ability to empathize with the sufferings of animals, may take out their frustrations and hostility on animals with little sense of remorse. Their abuse of animals is an effort to compensate for feelings of powerlessness and inferiority.

Just as the abuse of animals may be a predictor of future anti-social violence, there is also evidence that many abused children have warm and nurturing relationships with their animals. By encouraging children to show kindness and empathy towards animals, the potential for anti-social violence may be ameliorated. In fact, there is growing evidence that animals can be used therapeutically to aid violent and disturbed behavior in children.

#### Conclusion

To come back to the question posed by Singer, why is it

that "people and animals must suffer so?", perhaps the answer is in our proclivity to distance ourselves from the non-human world. In our acquisitive, aggressive society we have developed what Midgely (1992) calls a "meaningless hyperactivity," which she says makes it more difficult for people in modern communities to nurture and develop the receptive, accepting and contemplative parts of their character. A major consequence of this process,

according to Katcher and Beck (1988), is that we have become a society that spends very little time in physical contact with plants and animals, and very little time nurturing our children.

What is needed is an increased awareness of not only how we are linked to animals, but an appreciation of how we are part of a larger living universe. Over the centuries, we have gone to great lengths to define and justify our separateness from the

natural world, and our right to have "dominion" over the earth. We deny that we are part of and dependent on a larger universe that includes plants, animals and the natural elements. We also deny that we are part of a "large scheme" that includes future generations - our children (Midgely, 1992).

Compassion for the suffering of humans and animals in the 20th century is still in the early stages of becoming a dominant value in our

culture. Humans and animals are connected to each other just as we are connected by all of nature. As Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965) said, "Man can no longer live for himself alone. We must realize that all life is valuable and that we are united to all life. From this knowledge comes our spiritual relationship with the universe."

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## ANIMAL PROTECTION AND THE NAZIS

Andrew Rowan

*Modern anti-vivisection literature contains many allusions to the Nazi doctors who experimented on the inmates of concentration camps, implying that animal researchers today are either equivalent or not far removed.*

In response, supporters of research have pointed out that the Nazis passed laws banning vivisection in Bavaria and Prussian in the early 1930's. In August 1933, Hermann Goring announced

an end to the unbearable torture and suffering in animal experiments and threatened to commit to concentration camps those who thought they could still treat animals as inanimate property

The implication here is that the Nazis experimented on people because laboratory animals were denied to them.

The core facts on both sides are correct. Nazi doctors did experiment on humans and the Nazis did ban animal

experimentation in 1933, although they then retreated from a full ban and it is not clear how aggressively they enforced the restrictions. Regardless of how the modern protagonists in the animal research controversy use these facts, the real puzzle here is how could the Nazis have promoted animal protection while treating humans so badly.

A recent article by Northeastern University sociologist

Arnold Arluke and Pace University folklorist Boria Sax attempts to unravel the conundrum and explain the situation (in *Anthrozoos*, Volume 5, number 1, pages 6-31).

In November 1933, the National Socialist government of Germany passed broad and comprehensive laws attempting to minimize animal suffering while also establishing

*NAZIS, continued on page 16*

that animals were to be protected for their own sakes rather than in relation to their usefulness for humankind (a new legal principle, according to one analysis). While these laws were similar to those in effect in England at the time, the punishments were far more severe (two years in prison for "rough treatment" of an animal). The Nazis also hosted a major international animal protection congress in 1934 and animal protection as a topic became a university major in 1938. What was the underlying motive for all this concern?

Some have suggested the Nazis were either socially deficient and turned to animals because they could not get along with people, or they merely used animal protection as a cynical ploy to present a caring and compassionate persona to the world. Arluke and Sax argue that while some of these influences may be valid, the Nazi approach to animals was based on a much more complex cosmology.

The complete picture involves the following influences to some degree: The Nazis distorted Nietzsche's discussion of man as a "blond beast" and developed a more aggressive and obedient ideal of man as a predator. One who is both more honest and more aggressive than the overly domesticated, cultured and educated human. The Nazi also promoted reverence for animals and argued that animals should be regarded as moral beings. Along with these attitudes, they promoted holistic attitudes to nature that identified strongly with the organic unity of life and against mechanistic and analytic approaches. It is also true that many Nazis were very ambivalent in their relationship to humans and animals. Hitler personified this and worshipped his dogs but had a difficult time relating to people. Goebbels was very

explicit in his attitude to humans and animals, commenting at one point that the more he gets to know the human species the more he cares for Benno his dog.

*The real puzzle here is how could the Nazis have promoted animal protection while treating humans so badly.*

Two other strands that Arluke and Sax weave into their tale are the Nazi attitude to animal breeding and veterinary medicine and the link between the Jews and animal issues. Under the Nazis, animal science flourished and principles from animal science were used both to establish special breeding centers to purify the Aryan race and to ship the unwanted off to concentration camps. As for the Jews, there had been strong links between anti-semitism and animal protection in Germany since the 19th century. The famous composer Wagner was particularly virulent in his hatred of both Jews and vivisection. Jewish intellectuals came to be identified with mechanistic and analytic approaches to life while the Aryan was seen as enjoying a healthier holistic approach.

When drawing these disparate threads together to explain the Nazi paradox, Arluke and Sax argue that the apparent conflict between concern for animals and disregard for humans can be explained by suggesting that the Nazis attempted to order their world in the following way: All human societies attempt to make order of the chaos of the universe and these ordering systems usually identify facets that are either "pure" or "polluting." Thus, most people admire an elegant hairstyle but when that hair falls out and lies

around the bathroom floor, it is perceived to be "dirt" that must be cleaned up and removed.

Human societies also have problems drawing lines between humans and animals. Inevitably there are some animals that seem to cross the line and much of the animal protection battle is grounded on a fight over how the line should be drawn. What the Nazis did, suggest Arluke and Sax, was draw the line within the human sphere, identifying some humans (Jews, gypsies, the mentally ill, the infirm) as "polluting" and classifying animals as "pure" nature. Thus animals were perceived as innocent and virtuous whereas some groups of people were viewed with contempt, fear and disappointment.

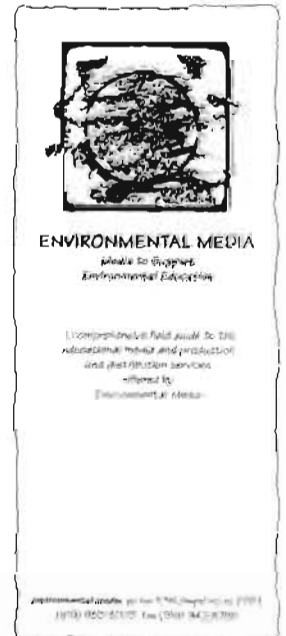
While Arluke and Sax deal with this disturbing topic with professional scholarship, they specifically note that their detached "stance should not be read as an excusing of Nazi behavior." They suggest that their analysis has far-reaching ethical implications that can best be addressed only by developing a clear understanding of Nazi cosmology and the underlying influences on their overt behavior. I agree with them and would urge readers who have grappled with the notion or accusation that people who are kind to animals ignore human needs and priorities to obtain the full article and digest it carefully. Finally, just because the Nazis embraced animal protection does not mean that it is anti-human. The Nazis also opposed cigarette smoking but that does not mean we should all now rush out and start smoking like chunnies again.

*Andrew Rowan is the Director of the Tufts University Center for Animals and Public Policy. Reprinted with permission from Science and Animal Care, The WARDS Newsletter, Volume 3, Number 2 (Spring 1992).*



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# Mills College Professor's Research Sheds Light On Commitment and Burnout Among Political Activists

## *Keeping the Spark Alive*

by Mary E. Gomes, Ph.D.

Mills College and University of California, Berkeley

*Editor's Note: We know you will find the results of Dr. Gomes' research interesting, especially in light of the Latham Foundation's commitment to encourage information exchange between animal and child protection professionals, which could, unfortunately, be interpreted as "more work for the weary."*

*The existence of large, systemic problems in the world today, some of which threaten our very survival as a species, calls for the widespread involvement of informed, creative individuals committed to large scale social change.*

But it has been widely observed that many individuals who become involved in social movements have difficulties in sustaining their involvement over the years. In the words of peace activist Bill Moyer (1987). "After years of virtual ... round the clock activity in a crisis atmosphere, at great personal sacrifice, many activists find themselves mentally and physically exhausted and don't see anything to show for it. Eventually, large numbers of activists lose hope and a sense of purpose; they become depressed, burn out, and drop out."

What are some of the experiences that lead some people to remain involved in activist causes for "the long haul," and others to drop out after several years? To begin to answer this question, interviews were conducted with 29 activists from the San Francisco Bay Area. Fifteen of these were "current activists" – in other words, they were actively working for social change at the time of the interview. The remaining 14 were "former activists" – once highly involved in political movements, but no longer active at the time of the interview. Most of the interviewees were involved with a wide range of left-wing issues, including peace, the environment, civil liberties, civil rights, reproductive choice,

and socialism. There were also two conservative, anti-abortion activists and two libertarians.

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*What are some of the experiences that lead some people to remain involved in activist causes for "the long haul," and others to drop out after several years?*

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Interviews addressed a wide range of activist experiences, but focused on those thought to facilitate an ongoing involvement (for instance, "What are some of the things that keep/kept you inspired and motivated in your work as an activist?") and on experiences thought to hinder an ongoing involvement (for instance, "How have you dealt with conflicting demands from other parts of your life? Have you ever lost your motivation, or felt burned out, in your work as an activist?")

The interviews showed that, indeed, there are dramatic differences between the two groups. Consider the following two quotes, the first from a current activist and the

second from a former one:

"I've relaxed a lot more. When I was younger I was convinced that I needed to drive myself every single minute. The planet wouldn't stay on its orbit if I wasn't pushing it. Now I feel that I can go to the sauna and I'll still hate imperialism in an hour and a half. And the delusion of grandeur, that it all rests on my shoulders, is more responsibility than anyone can accept. Both those things have changed in the last 10 years. And that's helped me to stay an activist." - current anti-racist activist, involved for 30 years.

"You keep pushing yourself. There's no limit. It's like an anorexic getting thin; you're never quite thin enough. When you're an activist you're never working hard enough. So you're exhausted and feel like you've got nothing to give." - former libertarian activist, involved for 11 years.

**Current Activists: Flexible Commitment.** In an approach to activism which I call a "flexible commitment," activists are able to work within their own limits of time or energy and to accept these limits. For example, many spoke of taking time off from activism to replenish their energy when they were feeling depleted. This type of commitment was much more

common among current than former activists. Specifically, 67% of the current activists reported a flexible commitment, in contrast to 7% of the former activists.

Thus, the current activists made real efforts to maintain a sense of balance and perspective in their lives.

Rather than seeing episodes of low motivation, or burnout, as a personal failure, they generally accepted it as an unavoidable part of being an activist. They were flexible in their ability to go back and forth from periods of intense involvement to times of disengagement and renewal. For example, one current activist said, "I've never struggled

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*The current activists made real efforts to maintain a sense of balance and perspective in their lives.*

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against the feeling of burnout. If I felt burned out, I just let myself feel burned out. I didn't have any moralistic attitude toward it, or fight it. I'd feel "Oh, I'm burned out, I'll just sit here. Let someone else do it. I'll just be here and be blah."

*ACTIVISTS continued on page 18*

They generally responded to burnout by taking time off, when possible. One environmentalist described burning out every year at the beginning of the summer. After a few months of taking things more slowly, she almost invariably found her motivation returning in the fall.

**Former Activists: Driven Commitment.** The flexible commitments of the current activists stand in stark contrast to the "driven commitments" described by those who had left activism. These former activists spoke frequently of forcing themselves to maintain a high degree of involvement in the face of competing time demands or personal feelings of exhaustion.

Driven commitments were reported by 71% of former activists, as opposed to 13% of current activists. (The remaining 20% of current activists and 21% of former activists reported neither flexible nor driven commitments.)

In contrast to the current activists, the former activists were much less likely to feel permission to be flexible about their work, or the sense of balance associated with such an attitude. Instead, the former activists often reported the feeling that activism was taking over their lives. They typically responded to incipient feelings of burnout by rigidly adhering to their activism program, or even pushing themselves hard, using guilt as a motivator. Along these lines, a former peace and social justice activist described the hardest thing about being an activist to be "the voices that I carried with me - you're not doing enough, you have to do more. There's no time to stop. There's poor people, there's starving people, there's homeless people. That constant feeling that I didn't deserve a life until everybody got life."

The responses to these interviews have important implications for both indi-

vidual political activists and their organizations. It is becoming clear that a strong "activist superego," in which devotion to the cause requires endless personal sacrifice, is an almost sure-fire route to burnout. In addition, it is also counterproductive to the goal of social change, as it deprives the political and social movements of the input of these committed individuals who have pushed themselves too hard and withdrawn from activism as a result.

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*It is becoming clear that a strong "activist superego," in which devotion to the cause requires endless personal sacrifice, is an almost sure-fire route to burnout.*

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This research also has powerful implications for social change organizations. It seems important that activist leaders and organizers examine the messages that are being conveyed to individual activists. Is there an acceptance of periods of low motivation, and permission to withdraw when needed? Such tolerant approaches were rarely reported by either the current or former activists interviewed for this study. More often, they experienced pressure from their organizations to always be "on," continually pushing forward. As activists internalize an unrealistically high work ethic, they may begin to pressure other activists to work beyond their capacity, setting up a chain reaction of guilt and pressure.

In brief, activist organizations would be likely to contribute more strongly to social change in the long run by, in ecological terms, focusing more on sustainability, treating their members less as

"disposable objects" to be used up quickly and then discarded, and more as valuable resources to be carefully tended so as to bear fruit well into the future.

<sup>1</sup> This research was supported by a National Institute of Mental Health Individual Fellowship (1F32MH09906-02) to the author.

<sup>2</sup> I thank Christina Maslach, Allen D. Kanner, and Ayala

M. Pines for comments on an earlier draft of this paper, and Shawn Leimbach for assistance in coding the interviews.

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## Advice for Introducing a New Human Baby to Your Pet

### *Bringing Baby Home - Straight from the Cat's Mouth*

This topic has been on my mind for some time. My heart breaks every time I see dogs, and more often my fellow feline friends, being surrendered at our Humane Center, because their caregivers are expecting a new baby or have just had one.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF: PAWS & COUNCIL

*The Nebraska Humane Society's Feline Author, "Abbey" offers suggestions for introducing a new human baby to your pet.*

A child's bond with a pet is a very special one.

They can grow up together and have a unique and loving friendship. I decided to consult with my veterinarian, Dr. Marty Ramm, of Mobile Animal Clinic. Dr. Ramm has just become a new father of a beautiful baby boy, and he is very knowledge-

able about animal health, both physical and emotional. After all, he certainly takes good care of me!

There are some things you can do to ease the transition of your new human arrival for your pet:

- (1) Well before the baby's arrival, carry a doll around the house and treat it just like a baby - talking to it, playing, disrupting the normal routine of things just as the baby will do when it arrives. Once the baby arrives, condition your pet by giving it praise or a small treat whenever the baby cries or interrupts the time you normally spend with your pet. Make sure other family members spend time with them, too!
- (2) Before the baby's arrival, let your pet get familiar with the baby's room, BUT ESTABLISHING ANY OFF-LIMIT AREAS. After all, you wouldn't want us to bother you when you are changing diapers, hopping up on the counter while you are preparing baby's food, etc.
- (3) Note: It is not always jealousy that causes pets to behave differently, BUT CHANGE IN THE PARENT'S ROUTINE. Slowly and well before the baby is born, start training your pet the behavior you want it to exhibit.

- (4) Before your new arrival, make sure your pets have been properly groomed, free of parasites, and healthy. Altered pets will usually not mark territory or display aggressive behavior.
- (5) If planning a family, be sure to socialize your young pet by exposing it to all shapes and sizes of people whenever possible. I myself am the perfect specimen of a socialized animal! Everybody loves me!
- (6) LASTLY, if you have a fine feline like myself, and are expecting, let someone else change the litterbox, or if it isn't possible, WEAR GLOVES AND CHANGE THE BOX DAILY.

Your pet will learn to love your new child unconditionally with your assistance. In return, it will teach your child to have respect for all living creatures.

*The above article appeared in the Spring issue of Pet Tracks, the newsletter of the Nebraska Humane Society. It is reprinted with the kind permission of Beth Brown of the Nebraska Humane Society (who writes for Abbey) and Dr. Marty Ramm, Mobile Animal Clinic.*



## MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC NEWS

# Unwanted Greyhounds Find a Home at Hemopet

Eileen Layne

*In the past several years, humane organizations, breeders, journalists and others have blasted the dog racing industry for abuse and neglect of Greyhounds. DOG FANCY magazine summarized the frustrations of many Greyhound advocates when it concluded an October 1991 article entitled, "Racing Greyhounds," with the poignant words: "As long as vast numbers of dogs are killed because they are too old or too slow to catch the almighty dollar, the blood of the unwanted still stains this industry."*

It was that very blood that moved one veterinarian to rescue as many Greyhounds as she possibly could.

For the past decade, hematologist W. Jean Dodds, DVM, had been striving to establish a national animal blood bank program that could provide veterinarians with supplies of compatible-type blood for transfusions. She established HEMOPET in 1986 as a not-for-profit program that, in her

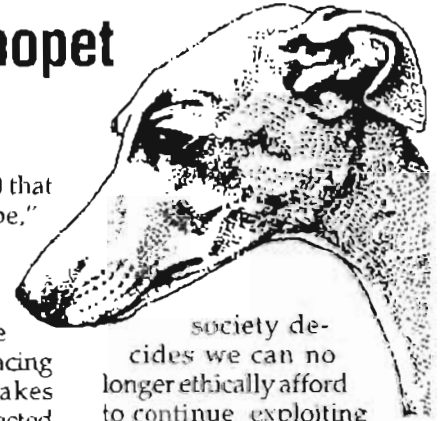
own words, could provide practical, safe and affordable transfusion medicine. Dodds' aim in establishing the non-profit corporation was to provide blood to as many animals in need as possible. Among the many obstacles she faced was finding suitable donors and enough of them.

Concerned about the welfare of the thousands of Greyhounds killed annually because they are not suitable racers, she decided to adopt as many as she could as resident donors. She found that in addition to the fact that there was an incredible surplus of Greyhounds, they also made ideal donors. At the most basic level, their short hair and docile nature eases the task of collecting blood. After almost one year in operation, the blood bank, located in Irvine, now maintains 30 Greyhounds. Those 30 were screened from a total of 85. Dodds has no control over the destiny of the dogs that are not chosen. "The only thing we

could do was save the 30 that had the right blood type," she sadly explains.

She adopts them from owners and trainers who have decided the dogs are unsuitable for racing or breeding. Dodds makes sure the Greyhounds selected are in good condition, then prepares them to be donors. Dodds considers owners and trainers the most efficient source of Greyhounds, even though some Greyhound advocates would argue that abused race dogs can be found abandoned in gross quantities.

"The reality is that 30,000-50,000 surplus Greyhounds exist in the U.S.," explains Dodds. She describes one incident in which over a hundred Greyhounds were found buried in a shallow, mass grave. All their ears had been cut off to remove tattoos that would have traced them to their owners. She emphasizes that not much can be done to end such atrocities until



society decides we can no longer ethically afford to continue exploiting animals.

"Turning a rescued Greyhound into a good blood donor is an expensive process," as Dodds describes, "We spend about \$750 per dog before they are ready to be donors. First we have to have their health checked, their blood screened and analyzed, then ship them to Orange County, where we acclimate the dogs to their new environment and neuter them."

In addition to her initial cost per dog, the state of California requires Dodds to be licensed and carry 2.5 million dollars in liability coverage.

Besides the cost, Dodds faces complicated logistics in

*GREYHOUNDS, continued on page 20*

distributing the blood. First, she must have written permission from every state to which HEMOPET intends to ship blood. Of the 42 states that have responded to her so far, two have denied her unrestricted access to their states. The livestock commissioner in one of the two voiced concerns that the donor blood could introduce infectious agents into the state. Once HEMOPET is able to ship the blood, Dodds must make sure it leaves by 1:00 pm in order for it to arrive before 10:30 am the next morning.

While Dodds' endeavor is expensive and requires coordination, it is working. In fact, the demand is so high HEMOPET currently sells everything it has available. Presently, the blood center offers packed red blood cells, fresh frozen plasma, whole blood, platelet-rich plasma, cryoprecipitate and cryoprecipitate supernatant.

The operation is also proving a success for the Greyhounds Dodds rescued. The 30 original dogs have adjusted well to their new homes and duties. Dodds describes them as excellent donors that are free of worry and very calm animals. Dodds goes to great pains to make sure her dogs are happy. She has even given permanent pen mates to three of the Greyhounds she describes as exceptionally shy in order to keep them comfortable. After they donate, each dog is rewarded with ice cream, biscuits and a sign that reads, "Be nice to me, I gave blood today."

Dodds has applied for a grant to help fund a retirement community for her Greyhounds. Currently, HEMOPET is only operating at 70 percent of capacity, so as the blood bank grows, a retirement facility is definitely going to be necessary.

It is apparent Dodds has served the veterinary community unselfishly as both a scientist and a humanitarian. By

establishing her blood banking service, she has made it possible for veterinarians to offer compatible-type blood for transfusions; given more dogs in need of critical care a chance to survive when they otherwise might not; and at the same time offered some Greyhounds an opportunity to live out happy, normal lives.

"We are all working, in human and veterinary medicine, to develop blood substitutes so in the future we will not have to rely solely on people or animals as donors," says Dodds.

*Reprinted with permission of California Veterinarian, Volume 46, Number 3.*



## Painless Alternative to Declawing Announced

*Just When You Thought You Had Heard of Everything - Nail Caps for Cats Are Now Available From Your Veterinarian*

*Nail caps are a new, recently introduced painless alternative to declawing. They are available from your veterinarian. These soft vinyl nails caps are touted to keep cats' nails blunt and harmless four and five times longer than routine nail trimming. The caps are held in place by a non-toxic adhesive and are available in sizes to fit kittens and adult cats. The caps usually last from four to six weeks depending on the rate of nail growth and activity level of your cat. You must go to your vet initially to get the correct size cap but can put the caps on at home after that. Ask your veterinarian for more information and costs.*

*The above article appeared in the March 1992 Paw Prints. It is reprinted courtesy of the Mobile S.P.C.A., Mobile, Alabama.*



## Developments at Latham

### Latham Converts It's Production Facility To State-of-the-Art Video Technology

*For more than forty years the Latham Foundation has produced successful television programs, humane educational films, and documentaries using motion picture film and professional camera equipment. While film results in a very high quality product, the lower cost and convenience of video tape has made it increasingly popular in the broadcast industry and with schools—two of Latham's prime markets. Therefore, several years ago Latham began considering the advantages and disadvantages of converting its production facilities to video tape.*



*Latham's broadcast-standard video equipment is in place and will soon be ready to serve the humane education world. Contact Steve Nagy, Executive Producer, (NOT pictured above) for more information. 510-521-0920.*

*The decision to convert was based on several factors: equipment purchase price, the cost of motion picture film stock vs. video tape (For example, a single roll of motion picture film, which runs about 11 minutes, will buy about 300 minutes of video tape!); quality of the end product; ease of operation; duplication and distribution convenience; and in-house editing capabilities vs. the need for outside technical services.*

*Luckily, just as computers have become more affordable, video equipment has also become more cost-effective. For example, while state-of-the-art video equipment is still not inexpensive, its cost has dropped by almost two-thirds in the last few years.*

*Today, Latham's broadcast-standard video equipment is in place and soon it will be ready to serve the humane education world.*

*The computer operating system is being tested and although of course the system does not transmit on the air (nor is that the intent), it looks and operates like a television station.*

*The Latham Foundation often has been a catalyst in the success of other public service organizations. Those organizations have received valuable exposure through Latham-produced films and, in turn, that exposure has resulted in substantial financial and volunteer support.*

*Latham will now be able to produce more projects at less cost, thus benefitting organizations and the public as well. With the installation of its state-of-the-art video equipment, the Foundation will continue to fulfill its mission of promoting respect for all life through education.*





# SAVE THE DATE!

*The Latham Foundation announces its first regional conference:*

## A Cooperative Approach to the Prevention of Child and Animal Abuse

Co-sponsor: Mills College Psychology Department

Saturday, October 24, 1992  
Mills College, Oakland, California

There is undeniable evidence that child abuse and animal abuse are not separate problems but actually very closely related issues. And unfortunately, in a situation where child abuse exists, animal abuse is often also present.

Latham believes there are important benefits to be gained through shared investigative information — gains for society, for clients, for child and animal welfare professionals, and most importantly, for the victims.

Join 70 of your friends and colleagues for a day on the beautiful Mills College campus exploring the benefits of inter-agency cooperation in reducing and preventing child and animal abuse.

### Learn How You Can Be Part of the Solution

#### AS A PARTICIPANT YOU WILL:

- Learn details about the correlation between animal and child abuse
- Hear specific practical solutions from current cooperative programs
- See the latest training videos and publications
- Have your questions answered by a panel of experts
- Establish peer support and followup networking opportunities

#### SPEAKERS INCLUDE (and others will soon be announced):

- Phil Arkow, Director of Public Relations and Humane Education at the Humane Society of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs
- Dr. Frank Ascione, Associate Psychology Professor, Utah State University
- Mary Pat Boatfield, Executive Director of the Toledo Humane Society
- James M. Harris, D.V.M., Montclair Veterinary Hospital, Oakland
- Michael Kaufmann, AHA's Humane Education Coordinator
- Dr. Aline H. Kidd, Mills College Psychology Department
- Dr. Lynn Jordan Loar of the San Francisco Child Abuse Council
- Bob Walter, Director of Education at the Humane Society of Tacoma and Pierce Counties in Washington
- Kenneth White, Deputy Director of San Francisco's Department of Animal Care and Control

Betty White, humanitarian and actress, is scheduled to speak at the Latham Foundation's October 24 conference on The Prevention of Child and Animal Abuse. Ms. White is a long-time advocate of both child and animal welfare.



#### WHAT MATERIALS WILL YOU RECEIVE?

You'll take home a complete resource book filled with background materials on the subject and speakers. Plus, you'll be eligible for a discount on Latham's videos and publications.

**REGISTER EARLY —  
SPACE IS LIMITED!**



Return form and payment to:

The Latham Foundation, Latham Plaza Building, Clement and Schiller Streets, Alameda, CA 94501, (510) 521-0920, Fax (510) 521-9861

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Conference Fee: \$45.00. Includes: hospitality breakfast and luncheon with Betty White.

## Book Reviews

**Editor's Note:** *The Latham Foundation reviews humane and related environmental books to help keep you up-to-date about recent publications. To order, please contact the publishers directly.*



### Nature Crafts for Kids

Gwen Diehn and Terry Krautwurst  
Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.  
387 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10016-8810  
Hardcover, 144 pages

*They'll Love it!*

*50 Fantastic Projects for Kids to Make with Help from Mother Nature*

Kids will love this book if they can get it away from the grown-ups. It's gorgeous! Filled from cover to cover with fascinating facts, exciting full-color photos, clear drawings, and loads of great ideas, *Nature Crafts for Kids* (Sterling/Lark, \$19.95 hardcover) motivates kids to take advantage of nature's gifts to create natural outdoor projects right away.

In separate sections for the four seasons - Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter - this wonderful book shows how to "learn by doing" as well as by looking and reading.

- Kids will find out how to dig for clay in a creek bank and make pinch pots like Native Americans.
- They'll make kites that are shaped like fish from environmentally-friendly materials.
- They'll learn how to make plaster casts of animal tracks, and how to tell which animal made them.
- They'll make a wind vane and discover what the wind does

for our planet.

The young lover of the winter outdoors will learn about "The Snowflake Man," Wilson Bentley, who became the first to successfully photograph snowflakes back in 1885. From snowflakes to snow sculpture—the kind that wins competitions—kids will gain from this book new ways to use, appreciate and enjoy nature in all her aspects as never before.

In spring, they can put together a "wormery" in a jar to see how worms eat their way through soil and move it around, or learn how to make candied violets that are safe to eat. During summer they can explore the beach and learn how to make a fish print or a colorful sand painting. In autumn they can carve apple monsters or make corn husk flowers. There's so much more.

Children of all ages and all abilities will delight in the joy of nature and in discovering how the world really works. This will be a kids' classic that will bring parents and children together to help them discover the wonders of nature.



### The Lion-Dog of Buddhist Asia

Elsie P. Mitchell  
Published by Fugaisha  
230 Park Avenue  
New York City, NY 10017  
191 pages, 57 plates, 45 in full color - price available from publisher, hard cover

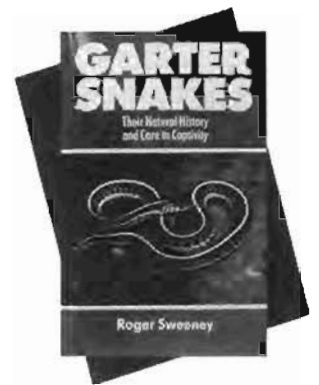
In much of Asia the lion is regarded as the benevolent guardian of the Buddha, who taught compassion for all living beings. Through word and picture Author Elsie Mitchell tells the reader how the power of the lion was com-

bined with the loyalty of the dog, and depicted by exquisite artworks: Chinese jade carving, Japanese netsuke toggles, Tibetan thanka paintings and wool rugs. Meanwhile that small "lion dogs" were bred in all three countries to resemble their celestial prototype.

*The Lion-Dog of Buddhist Asia* traces the origin of the mythical lion-dog of Buddha and the fascinating history of flesh-and-fur lion dogs. Separate chapters elucidate the place of the "dog of Buddha" in the life, lore, and art of China, Tibet and Japan. Finally, the Buddhist attitude toward dogs and other non-human beings is compared with that of other religions. A book to grace any library.

### GARTER SNAKES: *Their Natural History and Care in Captivity*

Roger Sweeney  
Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.  
387 Park Avenue South  
New York City, NY 10016  
136 pages (8 in color)

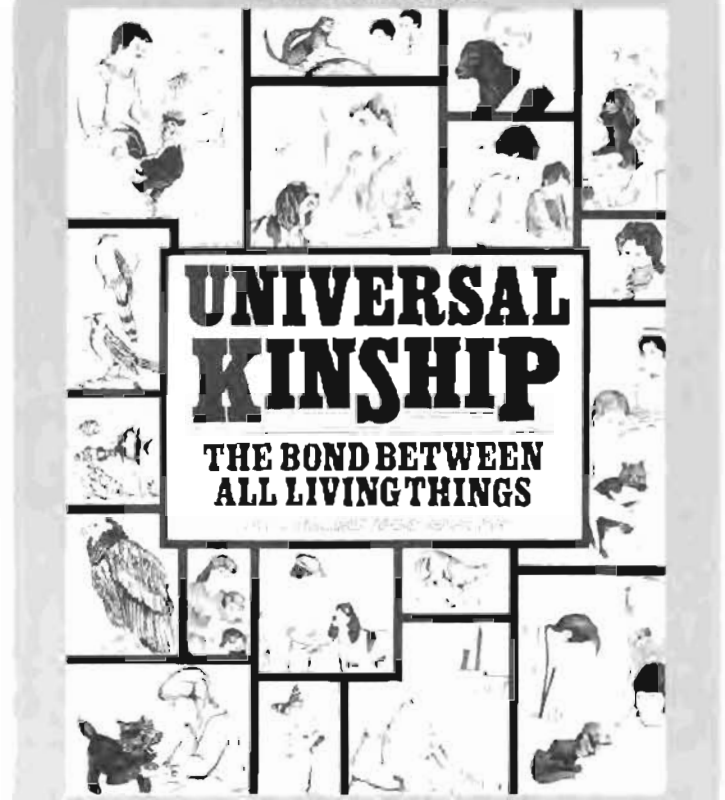


27 black-and-white illustrations

Gentle-natured, non-venomous and easy to feed, garter snakes, species of the genus *Thamnophis*, are probably the most popular choice for the beginner snake keeper. Author Roger Sweeney's *GARTER SNAKES: Their Natural History and Care in Captivity* is a perfect book for the novice or to fill out the gaps in ones knowledge on the subject.

This handy reference which is brimming with herpetological information, features critical tips for snake care, including housing, feeding, heating, handling, health care, breeding and much more.

*The Latham Foundation's NEW BOOK is now available!*



# Universal Kinship: *The Bond Between All Living Things*

by *The Latham Foundation*

Here is a special book that you will want to read over and over again. This collection of inspiring and comforting articles underscores the deep bonds that unite all living things, and shows us how we all can find hope and greater meaning as we learn to work in harmony with the earth.

Much of the Universal Kinship that is explored in this volume centers on the bonds between us and animals. Within the pages of this book you will learn how pets are attending school, not as students, but as teachers and therapists. You will discover how infants, the elderly, and the sick can benefit from the presence of animals. You will also gain new insights in handling grief after the loss of a loved one. And, you will find critical new information for healing the bond with the planet we live on. This book is a must for everyone. Buy one for yourself, and for someone you love.

# UNIVERSAL KINSHIP



## THE BOND BETWEEN ALL LIVING THINGS

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*"This special book contains a collection of the best articles from the Latham Foundation's world-wide newsletter. It offers hope, inspiration, and perspective. Its pages contain the timely messages that continue to challenge us to become better stewards of the fragile planet we share with all living things."*

**Larry Brown, A.C.S.W.**  
Executive Director  
The American Humane Association



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*9 year old arthritic German Shepherd mix Sheba, adopted and loved by Enid Helgerson through "HART" (The Humane Animal Rescue Team, Fillmore, California, 805-524-4542)*

*"If there is no God for Thee, then there is no God for me."*

*To A Dog*

*- Anna Hempstead Branch*



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