

# Latham Letter

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SUMMER 1994

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

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- How children's lives are changed through a pet-inspired values curriculum (Page 18).
- Facts about rare, small wild cat's (Page 10).
- Call for a new social contract (Page 3).
- Conference Reports – What is being done in Israel and in the U.S. to prevent child and animal abuse (Pages 15 and 23).

## Even the Homeless Need Pets<sup>1</sup>

Aline H. Kidd and Robert M. Kidd

During the years we've been investigating the interactions of people with their pet animals in their homes, schools, churches, and convalescent institutions, we noticed that a large number of our society's homeless men, women, and children in the parks and streets also had pet animals that seemed better taken care of than they the homeless themselves. Surprised by our observation and, finding that no studies, sociological or otherwise, have been made of pet ownership among the homeless, we quickly set up a study project.

Several social service agencies advised us on procedures and

*HOMELESS, continued on page 8*

## The Veterinarian's Role in the Prevention of Violence

by Phil Arkow

Do veterinarians have special obligations to prevent community violence? This question is being asked increasingly as the connections between cruelty to animals with other forms of violence, such as child abuse or domestic violence, are explored from a variety of social and professional perspectives. The public generally considers veterinarians as benevolent caregivers; recent IRS rulings, human-animal bond activities and historical tradition include veterinary medicine within the health care arena. The veterinarian's responsibility to prevent or report suspected abuse is uncomfortably vague, but offers a unique opportunity for practitioners to be perceived even more favorably by the community.

Veterinarians have long had a role in human health: inspecting



*Should veterinarians be required to report suspected abuse? According to Arkow, "There are few risks; the real danger is to do nothing in the face of emerging evidence that cruelty to animals is an insidious form of family violence."*

food, eradicating zoonoses, conducting medical research, providing emergency services during disasters, and serving in animal care and control agencies. Veterinary

*VETERINARIAN'S, continued on page 6*

The results are in!



The Latham Foundation recently completed the first national survey of opinions about child and animal abuse. See page 12 for a report on needs and concerns about escalating violence.

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*Latham's Humane Education Advisory Committee, February 1994, Denver, Colorado*

(left to right) *Mother Hildegard George, Ph.D., Michael Kaufmann, Linda Nebbe, Steve Nagy*

## EDITORIAL

# Junk Mail and the *Latham Letter*

*Hugh H. Tebault*

Being unrequested, Junk Mail is in a great majority of cases, considered bothersome and intrusive. And as such its value is equated to its cost. Why then do advertisers spend untold millions of dollars to provide us with material much of which, becomes instant waste paper? They're obviously endeavoring to communicate an idea, (i.e., sell) and it must pay off! Sufficient financial return has to be realized to justify the attendant wastefulness.

Recognizing the successful experience of commercial advertisers, *Latham* also considers itself to be in the selling game. In our case however, it's on behalf of ideas rather than products. Readership is therefore of paramount importance to the Foundations' public service. In addition to significant costs, each quarterly issue of the *Latham Letter* represents much thoughtful effort and a sincere conviction concerning the importance of the messages involved. For that reason, our coterie of paid subscribers is doubly appreciated, because in addition to the provision of needed financial support, we know by their action that they want and read each issue.

A number of complimentary



copies of the *Latham Letter* are regularly provided institutions and individuals. A modest response concerning their utilization is received, though it is much less than needed to properly evaluate the expenditure of the time, effort and costs involved. This is worrisome, because simple business judgment tells us that an unread *Latham Letter* represents a totally unjustified and wasted expenditure of the Foundation's modest funds. For those whose time and/or interests justifiably preclude reading complimentary copies of the Letter, instead of the junk mail "waste paper treatment," we ask the consideration of a cancellation notice - be assured that it will be most gratefully received. Of course, where a paying for a *Latham Letter* subscription is a problem, we'll be pleased to continue to send complimentary copies to those who read and appreciate our efforts.



*The Latham Foundation*

*endeavors to comply with a clearly expressed mandate given by its founder, Edith Latham:*

*"To promote, foster, encourage and further the principles of humaneness, kindness and benevolence to all living creatures..."*

In the next *Latham Letter*:

- More delightful prose from the author of "Oscar," *the Story of a Fish*
- Child and animal abuse prevention progress



# The Latham Letter

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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.

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## OPINIONS

### Dear Steve (Nagy) and Everyone at Latham:

*On behalf of everyone associated with the Humane Society of Port Jervis-Deerpark, thank you for your substantial contribution to the success of our second Telethon. We were able to raise close to \$6,000. A Professional presentation is what we desired and your tapes were indispensable in helping us achieve that goal.*

*This year we used Canine Good Citizen, Dog Bite Prevention, Your Humane Society, and Animal Control-Who Needs It? We also had an interview with our local animal control officer after the animal control film and it made for a very interesting segment.*

*The Latham Foundation has been a pleasure to work with and we look forward to repeating our success with your superb videos during Telethon 95.*

*Thank you again.*

*Sincerely,  
Jan Berlin Matthews  
Humane Society of Port Jervis/  
Deerpark, Inc.  
Port Jervis, New York 12771*

### A request from one of our readers

*Dear Friends:*

*We are in the process of writing an animal control/welfare book to cover all phases of animal control including capture, housing, medical attention, tranquilization, cruelty statutes, and equipment. The book will be available to any interested parties. We will try to cover everything from a field mouse to an elephant.*

*If you have any tried-and-true methods of animal capture or assistance that you feel are different from standard methods, or any other experiences you would like to share, please contact me.*

*Photos are welcome. We will be happy to give you a byline and/or photo credit.*

*I hope that this book, with its many contributors, will become the bible for*

*the animal control field.*

*Thank you.*

Lee Bernstein  
Executive Director  
Associated Humane Societies  
Humane Way, Box 43  
Forked River, NJ 08731  
609-693-1900

### A Call for a New Social Contract by Steven H. Johnsrud

*Editor's Note:* Latham contacted a high-ranking representative of the California prison system for a response to Mr. Johnsrud, but he declined to comment.

*With apologies to Jean Jacque Rousseau, I offer this preposterous suggestion: America needs a new social contract for the body politic. Before the able defenders of the status quo Rights, and other venerable and worn instruments of governance, I am suggesting there is a new America, a landscape never seen and likely not dreamed by the creators of this republic. In this new America, humans are not the only species considered valuable. Concern for animals and habitats has come of age. Women have gained their equality. People of color claim an equal share of freedom and justice. Tolerance rules for every issue of personal ambiguity in life's difficult decisions.*

*America has over a million incarcerated citizens. While we have John Rawl's eloquent A Theory of Justice, we do not have a clear and articulated theory of punishment, or theory of corrections. We do not even have any guidelines or expectations governing the lives of this vast and growing segment of our citizenry. We see concerned citizens willing to risk incarceration, themselves, on behalf of animals, whether spotted owls or other endangered species. We see eloquent posters about "Humane Societies" and Human/Animal companion bonds. We*

*OPINIONS, continued on next page*

see the aged represented. We see fundraisers for disabilities of all kinds, from MS to Jerry's Kids MD carnivals. We see there is great potential for compassion in the human species. Then comes the evening news, the talk shows, the clamorous pseudo-news, beating and beating and beating the criminals down. From a society that won't allow parents to spank their children comes an electronic onslaught of shaming, shaming, shaming. If there is a more despised cage in America than the prison cell of an adult human being, someone show me. Oh, they may look cleaner these days. They may even be very high-tech clever. They might even have Cable TV, with Showtime and Cinemax. But they are cages. A lot of old-fashioned zoos have closed, and animals are allowed to roam. Man has fallen behind the animals.

The social contract I would offer is not soft on crime, criminals, or those who incarcerate and micro-manage criminal behavior. But its goal is better human beings who will regain a decent place in a complex society. Give us a hand in fixing some of the dirty work we've created. Give us an incentive in making the system reclaim human lives. Expect us to change.

We have a generation entering prison now who have been raised with lenient standards, by comparison to earlier ages. Spanking was clearly out of vogue. The military strictly governs methods of discipline, and personal harsh discipline is no longer permitted. Even fraternities have banned harsh and dangerous hazing practices. Yet, the newest strategy for treating serious juvenile offenders is "boot camps." This is also the generation that takes seat belts, helmets, 55 speed limits, all sorts of safety precautions for granted. Raised on television and tolerance for others' beliefs, at least on paper and as public policy, what has been accomplished? Prison officials will cry that they are receiving a "tougher breed of inmate" today, and request more staffing, more safety devices, bigger budgets, and more beds. How did such a safe and pampered generation go so wrong? Did "spare the rod and spoil the child" get discredited too soon?

If we announced a national public town meeting to create a new social contract between the individual and the state, what type of instrument would evolve? The world has changed a great deal from Rousseau's time. We have a new awareness of our relationship to our planet. We have progress in how we view and treat animal populations and the biosphere. We have included more groups of people than our Founders ever dreamed. Women and people of color have expanded their share of rights and privileges. The public debate is far from over on many issues, such as abortion, acceptability of alternative sexual lifestyles, euthanasia, animal right's issues, and many more. Who would host such a meeting, and who would be its most powerful advocates? To suggest a hearing on the new information super-highway sounds fine, but not everyone in America is computer-literate. Not everyone in America is literate at all. Will the social contract be as elitist as the old?

of youth, as a time when erring was not so harshly punished as adults, are rapidly eroding. Sensationalism is rewriting the law books. The FBI recently has insisted they must have freer wiretap access, with the advent of cellular phones, or they will lose the war on crime. Notice that the rhetoric claims inflammatorily and quickly. We manufacture systemic problems of drug abuse and criminal activity into "wars" with drug lords and drug czars. Legislate and lock 'em up has filled the prisons, built a landscape of new ones, lined coffers of the legal establishment, and left Main Street America too frightened to walk the streets of its own neighborhoods after dark. America is rapidly becoming a new electronic feudal state, people hiding in their Cable TVs and only networking by safe, anonymous computers.

Talking heads are out for ratings, not reality. Wait in vain for News to announce a cure for woes. They have popularized and spread the gore of "drive-by

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Maybe incarcerated felons are not always so bright,  
but if what we have done is so god'awful terrible (and often it truly is),  
why does the rest of free America sit around at night  
and watch a constant diet of murder, rape,  
mayhem, and sleaze?

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John Rawls goes to great length to set up an original condition to achieve "justice as fairness" by a clever means. Those who originally decide the fate of themselves and later heirs, have no clear way of putting special interests in place. Today, we seem to have a grid-lock of colliding legislated moralities. We have a citizenry terrified by violent crime and a police establishment clamoring for the use of sophisticated DNA data banks, elaborate databases on things as mundane as felon's tattoos. Scarcely a word of protest is heard over invasion of privacy. School records of teenagers are surrendered over freely to police. Laws that once protected the juvenile status

shootings" and "serialized killers." A Gulf War can hold a week's attention. A California earthquake will grab an entire weekend. But let some new lunatic start a new campaign of human butchery, they drag the story on and on for weeks. One maniac gets more airtime than people who have spent their whole lives working in the field of rehabilitation and corrections.

I seem to recall it was a suffering child who caught the public's attention and gave the early humane society its shove to prominence. How can the incarcerated citizens of America get the attention of humane societies today? We live in the cages, even if they are

called cells or "living units." Those who have stolen are kept poor enough to steal again. Those who have raped or molested are ostracized further apart, alone, estranged from mature contacts, alien to members of the other sex. Those who assaulted are put somewhere where such skills are highly regarded, only to grow bitter toward ambiguities in the culture at large. Those who have killed are punished in decades and shamed forever and teased with inconsistent, sporadic enforcement of the death penalty, whenever society's blood-thirst cannot be quenched with mere time. When we are finally caught and locked up, is there anything resembling "penitence," that archaic Quaker notion of what a "penitentiary" should be for? Rarely. The TVs are too noisy with networks full of prime time crime and cable sleaze. Maybe incarcerated felons are not always so bright, but if what we have done is so god'awful terrible (and often it truly is), why does the rest of free America sit around at night and watch a constant diet of murder, rape, mayhem, and sleaze? Which part of society is getting sicker? Men and women who are incarcerated and taking nighttime college classes and watching the Learning Channel, or Joe Six-pack watching Fatal Attraction for the umpteenth time?

There is some ironic truth in the preposterous title, "American Most Wanted" ...When people learn I served thirteen years in a California prison, the very first thing every single one has asked me, from teens to old ladies, from convicts to cops, is "Did you see Charlie Manson"? For thirteen years I did my best to amend my life, but all they want to know about is a cult media celebrity.


California's enormous prison population is a Leviathan whose economy of scale problems alone are staggering. Yet, this vast, impersonal bureaucracy allowed me to earn an Associate Arts degree from the College of Marin, and Vocational Data Processing at San Luis Obispo. I was not pampered through those years, but when I exerted enough initiative, I was not impeded, either. Dr. Marcus Welby, M.D. wasn't my personal physician, yet crowded Vacaville did manage to correctly diagnose and treat my manic-depression. I'm ready in a heart beat to be critical, but upon

reflection, for all the anonymity and impersonality, I must grant I was treated at least fairly. If such a behemoth as the California Department of Corrections can at least make room for humane change, then other states in America have no excuses.

There are articulate men and women serving time in all fifty states. One author will not write this social contract. A team of authors would only manage a clear preamble, at best. But the call for the effort is important. We are a culture with little realistic representation. We need to hold our elected representatives accountable. Remind them that we have families outside, too, who can still vote. For too long, we have mutely suffered the injustice of what America calls justice. For those of us who have lived these incarcerated years peacefully with our fellow man and woman, we know we are better than this propaganda we are being assaulted with daily. There are Lifers I did time with who could move next door to me and babysit my kids because I know they are for real. I never asked anywhere in this piece to make it easier. It might shock free citizens to

know that there are people in prison just as sick of crime as the population at large. You see, they dump them all here and we have to listen to them whine and snivel while their noses get dry.

As long as administrators want to call these crime factories "correctional facilities," let's have the audacity to hold them accountable to that promise. Let's wake up some serious citizens to rescue human lives, to show at least the concern shown for a lost dog in an S.P.C.A. shelter. Put a muzzle on McGruff. It is a very sick metaphor for treating animals and human beings. California could make a very dramatic impact if decisions were made to restore some very shattered lives. Far wiser folks than I will need to labor over this new social contract, but society is quickly becoming bankrupt without it. Corrections should correct. How elemental can it get?

Steven H. Johnsrud is a Senior Staff Writer for *The Prison Mirror* in Stillwater Minnesota. He is a contributor to *The Latham Letter* and *Universal Kinship: The Bond Between all Living Things*. 



## HAWAIIAN HUMANE SOCIETY

- A directory of buildings that allow pets
- Tips for tenants on how to sell themselves and their pet to a landlord
- Suggested condo rules regarding pets, including enforcement strategies
- A checklist for landlords on identifying responsible pet owners
- Solutions to common pet problems
- Suggested forms to add to rental agreements allowing pets
- Speakers and resource people for condo boards and others needing information

For further information, call or write the Hawaiian Humane Society, 2700 Waiālae Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96826, 808-955-5122.

medicine also influences mental health. The Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges has noted, "The health care given to companion animals may be as significant in terms of mental and emotional health of individuals in this society as the protection of the food supply is to their physical well-being."<sup>1</sup> Veterinarians have initiated pet loss counseling, human-animal bond research, pets-in-prison programs, and animal-assisted therapy.

The amount of human client contact time is significant and offers substantial opportunities to identify problem areas. As early as 1976, psychiatrist Michael McCulloch, a pioneer in H-CAB research, speculated that veterinarians saw more people than animals. "It is reasonable to assume that most problems involving the emotional well-being of people come to the attention of veterinarians that would otherwise go unnoticed . . . due to the inherently emotional nature of the relationships of pets to humans and the fact that problems involving human relationship may become apparent in the content of animal-man interaction where they would not be clearly visible otherwise," McCulloch wrote. "Though veterinarians are not specifically trained mental health counselors, they do have professional obligations to both human clients and animal patients," he wrote, "which require evaluating problems confronting families if they adversely affect the well-being of the pets."<sup>2</sup>

With more than 25,700 small animal practitioners today,<sup>3</sup> the potential for interaction with dysfunctional families has undoubtedly increased significantly, and research suggests that practitioners may likely see abused children. In one study of 53 New Jersey pet-owning families in which physical/sexual child abuse or neglect had occurred, the use of veterinary services, levels of basic pet care, and rates of pet sterilization did not differ noticeably from general pet-owning

standards. Yet 25% of these families admitted that a member of their household had injured their pets previously, and unreported animal abuse occurred in another 38% of the families. In 88% of the families in which physical child abuse occurred, animal abuse had also been present.<sup>4</sup> A 1980 study in Buck County, Penn., found 9% of families under investigation by the child protection agency had also been investigated by the SPCA.<sup>5</sup> There are

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*Veterinarians are significant but underutilized participants in community health care systems.*

*They are in excellent position to recommend social service interventions for individuals or families in trouble.*

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no data quantifying veterinarians' observations of suspected cruelty to animals, but anecdotal evidence and the occasional case in which a veterinarian is called as an expert witness suggest this is a relatively common occurrence.

Pet-owning households are most likely to be families with children: 67.4% of households where the youngest child is under age six, and 78.7% of households where the youngest child is over age six, have pets.<sup>6</sup> Meanwhile, some 2,694,000 children, or 34 out of every 1,000 are reported as victims of abuse or neglect annually.<sup>7</sup> Clearly, many abused animals and children will be seen by veterinarians.

### **Are Veterinarians "health care providers"?**

Within five years of the identification of the "battered child syndrome" in 1962,<sup>8</sup> a national network of county child protection services was established which included mandating various professions to

report suspected child abuse. Today, various health care providers who have reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect, or who have observed the child being subjected to conditions that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, are required by law to report the information immediately with full immunity from civil or criminal liability. Though definitions differ from state to state, mandated reporters generally include "health professionals," "health practitioners," "medical professionals," "practitioners of the healing arts," or "other persons providing medical services licensed or certified in the state." Yet despite a recent IRS ruling that veterinary medicine is within the "field of health" and that veterinarians are "similar health care professionals" in a category including physicians, nurses, and dentists,<sup>9</sup> only Colorado provides statutory authority specifically including veterinarians among the dentists, nurses, physicians, chiropractors, and other health care providers mandated to report suspected child abuse or neglect. (Only California includes animal control officers among those mandated to report.) Only Minnesota requires veterinarians to report suspected cruelty to animals to humane authorities.

Child abuse and neglect, spouse abuse, and cruelty to animals are part of a wide continuum of family and social violence. Animal maltreatment by children and juveniles may predict concurrent and future antisocial behavior that may escalate in range and severity against humans; cruelty to animals may show dysfunctional families in trouble.<sup>10</sup> Where animals are abused, people are at risk.

Often, an animal-related incident may be the first point of intervention by social service agencies. Humane societies frequently have easier access to families in trouble than do their human service colleagues. There appears to be a growing consensus among veterinarians that they have a moral obligation

to report suspected cruelty to animals, as defined by law, to appropriate authorities, based upon their superior qualifications to make and support such charges. However, similar responsibilities to report suspected child abuse are not widely accepted, largely due to fear of litigation or erosion of the client base. Disclosures of suspected abuse force veterinarians to ask an uncomfortable question: is their primary obligation to the animal (patient), the owner (client), or to both?<sup>11,12</sup> Admittedly, reporting abuse risks undermining the doctor/client relationship while strengthening the doctor/patient relationship. Where are the veterinarian's priorities?

### Ethical ideals and realities

The responsibilities of veterinary medicine extend beyond the patient to society. Ethical ideals stipulate that while the personal privacy of clients is to be protected, confidences may be revealed if the veterinarian is required, by law, to do so or if such disclosure is necessary to protect the health and welfare of the individual, the animals, and/or others whose health and welfare may be endangered.<sup>13</sup>

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*Veterinarians should not fear reporting suspected abuse.*

*Generally, any individual or appropriate professional may, in good faith, report suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or youth services agencies with full immunity from civil or criminal liability.*

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The long tradition of veterinary medicine to protect human health, the public's increasing recognition of veterinary medicine within the matrix of community health care, and the complex relationship between cruelty to animals and other forms of violence against the vulnerable, compel veterinarians to take a leadership role in preventing abusive people-animal interrelations. There are few risks; the real danger is to do nothing in the face

of emerging evidence that cruelty to animals is an insidious form of family violence.

### Conclusions

Veterinarians are significant but underutilized participants in community health care systems, who are positioned excellently to recommend social service interventions for individuals or families in trouble. Veterinarians should treat suspicions of cruelty to animals or child abuse seriously, out of immediate concern for the animals' welfare and recognition of the symptomatic role of battered pets and children. They should not fear reporting suspected abuse. Generally, any individual or appropriate professional may report suspected abuse or neglect, in good faith, to law enforcement or youth services agencies with full immunity from civil or criminal liability.

As communities initiate interdisciplinary coalitions against violence, veterinarians should actively participate to protect the vulnerable and to promote nurturing skills to those who most desperately need them. They should also participate in the rehabilitative process by

offering animal-assisted therapy, humane education, or employment to victims of abuse.

Each veterinarian should clarify his or her personal responsibilities to patients and clients to mitigate ethical dilemmas.

Cruelty to animals, like child abuse, is a crime and is symptomatic of disturbed individuals and dysfunctional families. Admittedly, this issue has received little attention in traditional educational curricula

or practice management training. Still, veterinarians should recognize that early intervention and prevention, as referrals for counseling or, where warranted, criminal prosecution, are integral to the caregiving oath. In so doing, veterinarians may help promote a positive and nurturing ethic that also integrates veterinary medicine where it rightfully belongs in the changing, increasingly urban society — as part of the social service and health care delivery systems.

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*VETERINARIAN'S, continued on next page*

## Cruelty to Animals as one of the Predictors of Serial Killers

**T**he March 1994 issue of *Animal People* contains a great deal of data and analysis of child molesting and serial killers in New York State, and references to other work done by independent researchers and the FBI.

The study also shows that in rural counties with high incidence per capita of hunting and trapping, the probability of a child being molested is three times higher than in the most notorious crime-ridden location in New York State, the Bronx.

Promotion of Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), a California nonprofit corporation, has been unable to obtain statistics from California state agencies that would allow a comparative study. PAWS would appreciate any advice on how to obtain statistics on California county-by-county crime rates. You may contact them at 916-USA-PAWS.

### VETERINARIAN'S, continued

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locations of homeless adults, so we visited streets, parks and soup kitchens, and talked to any homeless adults who were willing to talk to us, asking them basic open-ended questions about their attachment to pets or their feelings about pet animals. We tried to determine "attachment" as qualitatively as possible by noting their comments and physical behavior during our interviews. Many of the homeless owners held and petted their animals while we talked, and the well-cared-for appearance of the animal matched the owners' descriptions of the care and concern they gave their pets. We also considered such declarations as "This is my best friend" and "She's the only thing that loves me" as evidence of strong attachment to the pets. Dr. Aline Kidd, our licensed clinical psychologist, was also able during the interviews to evaluate their mental health in relation to their attachment. Although none showed signs of drug or alcohol usage when interviewed, the 11 who did mention having drug and/or alcohol problems may have underreported, and Dr. Kidd observed that eight men and six women probably had mild to moderate thought disorders, while eight women and four men were clinically depressed.

As we expected, a number of the people we approached did not want to talk to us about pets or anything else, and we could not use one person's only response that "dogs are to eat" as a reliable statement of being attached to a pet, but we did talk to 105 homeless individuals: Twenty-six men and 26 women who owned pets, balanced against 27 men and 26 women who did not own pets. Of these, 48 owners and 44 non-owners had owned pets during childhood, and 40 of the current owners had the same type of pet they had owned in childhood. Some who had owned such pets as horses, pigs, raccoons, and birds as children obviously could not keep such pets on the street and, therefore, compromised on dogs and cats because

they wanted and needed some animal companionship. A majority selected dogs for protection and for their well-known loyalty and lovable ways. Of our 13 homeless who had not owned pets during childhood, three now owned and were very attached to pets, and 10 said they did not want pets under present circumstances.

And what, individually and collectively, were these homeless like? The 211 African-Americans, 10 Hispanics, 1 Asian-American, and 83 whites we talked to averaged 35 years of age and most had achieved an 11th grade education. Overall, 32 men and 21 women were single; Two men and six women were married; Eight men and 24 women were divorced, and one man was widowed; 32 were parents, 13 of the men and 19 of the women had minor children, some of which were living temporarily with grandparents or other relatives. Significantly, however, 15 of the women had 23 boys and 20 girls living with them, and four of the men had eight boys and three girls living with them. Most of those with children and pets were living in their cars, trucks or vans; the others lived in parks, under bridge culverts, or in street or alleyways alcoves.

Most had worked at unskilled or semiskilled jobs but were unemployed because of the recession or military and business downsizing and were unable to find day labor, or odd or service jobs to provide adequate housing or even enough food for themselves and their pets.

The men averaged being homeless for nine months, the women for 27 months. Several problems apparently prolonged hopelessness among the women. Most, particularly those with young children, had never worked, lacked a secure "domicile" where they could bathe, do their laundry, and receive messages for employment opportunities. And even if they could find work, they would be unable to afford child care on the minimum wages.

Understandably, our homeless had strong negative attitudes toward living in shelters. Because

shelters do not accept pets, our 52 pet owners refused to use them: "If my pet can't go, I won't go." Women and parents feared physical and sexual abuse of themselves and their children. Overall, 78 had never gone to a shelter and "would never go"; Eleven had gone once or twice and planned to avoid shelters in the future, and 16 used shelters but only when it was unavoidable.

Our homeless mentioned a number of problems and benefits of pet ownership, with feeding and veterinary care topping their list.

Most would feed the pet first and then try to care for their own feeding needs; others would do without and give their own food, however limited, to their pets or find such ways of stretching food as adding bread or other similar items discarded by grocery stores.

Veterinary care was a particular problem because it was seen as unaffordable. Most homeless pet owners, therefore, did not even try to get such care. Furthermore, many of the homeless feared that their unlicensed pets would be forcibly taken from them, even though there are very few cases of actual seizure of pets from the homeless by animal control officers. And, aside getting and proving that their pet has had the required expensive rabies inoculation, owners needed a stable mailing address to license their dogs. However, 24 of our homeless apparently managed to locate a free clinic or made a deal with a cooperative veterinarian for necessary care and licensing.

But except for such expenses, any other liabilities were denied by our homeless owners. Although only 20 men and 12 women held that their pet was the only love in their lives, parents and singles alike agreed that their pets were the only source of companionship and love. And, though no objective test could measure attachment, all of our owners obviously were extremely attached. The women frequently remarked "My pet is my whole life! I couldn't live without one!" The men maintained "He's my best friend, my only real pal!" One solemnly re-

ported: "She keeps me alive! When I had radiation and chemotherapy for cancer, I wanted to die. But I couldn't because she'd have been an orphan and no one would care for her and probably would have her put down and I couldn't let that happen!"

The non-owners, of course, mentioned responsibility, work, noise, and the need for special care as being distinct ownership liabilities yet, when asked if they would like to have a pet, only four men (and no women) indicated overt dislike or hatred of animals, while 13 men and 17 women wanted a pet. When asked why they didn't have one at present, 16 said "can't afford one," 11 were "unable to give appropriate care in the circumstances," nine said "don't want the responsibility," seven moaned "I can't even care for my own kids right now," and three didn't have any decent place to keep a pet. One groaned "I can't even take care of myself decently right now" and another said "I'll never have another pet because they're your whole life and then they die and leave you! The grief is too terrible to bear."

Asked how pets generally affect peoples' relationships and attitudes, 36 of our homeless pet owners insisted that other people treated homeless with pets better than they treated homeless without pets. Making such observations as "They love my dogs, so they'll talk to me, too." And, "Pets help encourage better communication or conversation between people." Five felt that "people will be more or less friendly depending on whether they like dogs or not, or on how they feel at the moment, or will usually talk if a dog's around—but often get mad if the dog barks or 'misbehaves' according to their viewpoint." Four owners reported that the presence of a pet animal sometimes made others more distant: "People avoid my Rottweiler" or "My dog tries to attack anyone who comes near me." However, eight of our homeless felt that the presence or absence of a pet did not affect interactions one way

or another. Furthermore, 22 of our non-owners were sure that a pet's presence made others more friendly: "people talk to you more; having a pet shows you can take responsibility." Four felt that the presence of a pet could make others friendlier or less friendly. Five believed that others were less friendly when pets were around because of the noise or fear of dogs and danger when the animal is obviously intent on "protecting" the owner. Most maintained that the presence of a pet made little difference either way. Obviously more owners than non-owners held that a pet's presence helped other people be more friendly, while more non-owners than owners believed that a pet's presence did not affect the interactive behavior or attitude of other people. For that matter, owners reported the giving and receiving of love as a benefit significantly more often than did non-owners, and non-owners claimed companionship and friendship as benefits significantly more often than did owners.

Most of the recent investigations of human and companion animal interactions have demonstrated that pet animals do contribute to the mental and physical well-being of their human owners. These benefits seem to be especially important for the homeless, many of whom lack adequate human companionship and social interactions. Further investigation is needed to determine more exact information about the numbers of homeless pet-owning adults, the types of pets owned, and the specific benefits to them of pet ownership. It is quite clear, however, that many homeless persons do have pets, that those pets are extremely important for their mental and physical well-being, and that pet care creates unique problems that stimulate the homeless to find solutions and gives them an impetus to survive in the face of all the benefits and liabilities.

1. Scientific paper: Benefits and Liabilities of Pets for the Homeless, Psychological Reports, 1994, 74, 715-722.



# International Society for Endangered Cats Works to Preserve Wild Felines

## Your Cat's Wild Cousins

Pat Bumstead

Cats are among the most popular of pets. It is arguable to what extent they can really be called domesticated, for even the most loving house pet retains the behaviors of its large, varied, wild family. Wild felines are found on every landmass except Australia and the polar regions. Depending on the authority cited, there are 35 to 38 different species ranging in size from two to 355 kg (four to 800 pounds). All but four are endangered in all or parts of their range.

Wild felines are loosely split into two groups: big cats and small cats. Based purely on size, the eight largest species are tiger, lion, leopard, jaguar, cougar, cheetah, snow leopard and clouded leopard. Except for the clouded leopard, all are familiar to the public. There are, however, 28 smaller members of the felidae family that remain largely unknown. They range in size from the 2 kg black footed cat to the Eurasian lynx, which averages 20 kg.

Small cats purr. Big cats roar. They can roar due to the hyoid bones that support the larynx having two parallel elastic ligaments in place of the central bones. The snow leopard is the exception: they have this elastic apparatus, although not as pronounced, but cannot roar. Most cats can purr in one way, shape, or form, though if they roar, they can only purr when they exhale.

Small cats are supposed to eat their food in a crouched position, while big cats eat lying down. While this does hold true for the small ones, it is not unknown for the bigger ones to also eat in a crouched position.

Canada has three non-endangered felines: bobcat, lynx, and

*The sand cat (felis margarita) inhabits the deserts of north Africa and the Middle East.*

cougar. The eastern cougar subspecies is classed as endangered but the western population is thriving. Bobcats are found in the more open southern areas while the Canadian lynx inhabits the forested areas of the north.

The World Conservation Union Cat Specialist Group has classed 10 of the smaller species or subspecies as critical - 50% probability of extinction within five years. Some cats are known only from single museum specimens: pictures have never been taken of the bay cat; one distant photo exists of the Andean mountain cat.

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*Many of the smaller cats are sold, dead or alive, as food or medicine in the street markets of developing nations.*

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As with all wildlife today, habitat loss is the greatest threat to the survival of wild felines. Grassland dwellers are being pushed further and further by the ever expanding human population. New roads into wildlife territory also pose hazards. Because of their small size, increased traffic is the biggest danger facing the small remaining population of Texas ocelots. Reintroduced lynx in New York state have also been nearly wiped out by vehicles. Eighteen feline species live in the disappearing rain forest.

The fur trade decimated many



PHOTO CREDIT: © PETER CROMER INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ENDANGERED CATS CANADA, INC.

populations from 1975 to 1985. Nearly 300,000 ocelot skins were exported from Latin America during this period. In 1986 new laws were passed forbidding the sale and export of endangered species. While the trade has dropped considerably, seizures of illegal furs continue to be made by officials in many countries. Greece continues to favor cat-fur coats and they can be found in many shops. Japan is the leading consumer of furs with sales valued at \$1.9 billion US.

More effective than hard-to-enforce laws is the drop in demand for pelts. As a result of various campaigns it has become morally unacceptable to many people in industrialized countries to wear fur. Fur sales have fallen by up to 90% in the United Kingdom. The fur trade is virtually nonexistent in Holland. Many fur farms, major retailers and wholesalers have been forced out of the fur business.

Many of the smaller cats are sold, dead or alive, as food or medicine in the street markets of developing nations. One small Asian species, the leopard cat, is popular for the supposed medicinal value of its bones or fur. The souvenir market also takes its toll with fur headbands and key fobs offered to tourists in some South American countries. The exotic pet trade of the past decades saw many small felines

exported from their native countries for status pets. As these animals got harder to handle when they aged, new homes were sought. Zoos were flooded, with requests to take declawed, neutered or spayed animals that were no longer "fun." Although the trade in endangered species is now illegal, the exotic pet trade endures in many countries.

Our own cuddly lap-sitters are descended from either the African wildcat or the jungle cat that were domesticated over four thousand years ago. Many of today's wild felines remain genetically identical to the domestic. Some, such as the Scottish wildcat and Arabian desert cat, may disappear entirely through inbreeding with feral domestics. The genetic similarity has also resulted in hybrids: small wild cats crossed with domestics to produce new breeds. Legitimate wild cat breeders are continually on guard against people wanting to purchase endangered species to cross with domestics.

Faced with all these threats to their survival, how do groups like the International Society for Endangered Cats hope to preserve wild cats?

One important area is field research: projects that gather data vital to our understanding of the needs of these animals. Most of the secretive smaller species have never been studied in their natural habitat. A current study in Israel of the tiny 2.6 kg sand cat, has found the fur on the soles of its feet prevents it from sinking into soft sand, making its tracks almost invisible. All scat is carefully buried. When light is trained on them at night, they crouch low and close their eyes so that no reflection is visible. This behavior, along with excellent protec-

*The black footed cat (felis nigripes) of Africa is one of the world's smallest wild cats.*



PHOTO CREDIT: © PETER CROMER INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ENDANGERED CATS CANADA, INC.

tive coloring, compounds the problems faced by researchers. A study in Thailand is searching the thick, dark rain forest for its elusive, nocturnal felines, and projects are planned for other small species.

Another promising option is the development of in-situ, or localized breeding projects. Zoo officials in Brazil, Chile and Guatemala are

needed jobs, these projects turn attention from poaching to protection, and eventually reintroduction of animals to protected areas.

In North America the captive situation is as varied as the species. Adaptable cats such as the serval and caracal have bred so successfully for years that many zoos are now faced with surplus animals.

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*The news is not all bad. Habitat protection plans are increasingly popular all over the world. Public concern and increased education on a global scale can save wild cats.*

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establishing off-exhibit breeding areas for small native cats. A project in Malaysia plans to house, among others, the flat-headed cat. This strange seven kg animal is one of the world's rarest felines, and is not represented in any zoo. Animals kept in familiar surroundings with familiar foods are more likely to exhibit natural behaviors such as reproduction. By not opening these centers to the public, the animals are not traumatized by the noisy disturbance of a regular zoo. But perhaps the greatest aspect of these centers is the involvement of the local people. Trained in animal husbandry by experts from North America, the people learn to respect their animals. Providing urgently

Extremely shy animals like the margay do not breed well in captivity. Some species, pallas' cat and geoffroy's cat among them are descended from very few founders, making inbreeding a concern. Others are simply not found in zoos.

In a perfect world, the ultimate aim of any conservation group is reintroduction; putting animals back into preserved natural habitat to survive as nature intended. In our world the problems associated with reintroduction of any carnivore are manifold. Human perception of these animals is still that of dangerous, bloodthirsty killers. In spite of the thousands of rodents killed by

*FELINES, continued on page 14*

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# CHILD AND ANIMAL ABUSE PREVENTION (CAAP) NEWS

. . . PROMOTING COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS INVOLVING CHILD AND ANIMAL WELFARE AGENCIES.

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## Survey Yields Surprising Results

### *Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Needs Assessment: Results and Recommendations*

Phil Arkow

#### Background

In the past two years there has been a considerable renaissance of interest in the connections between cruelty to animals and child abuse, a link that lies at the very heart of the humane movement. Numerous articles have been written, several bibliographies have been compiled, and the American Humane Association, with the support of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, has hosted two "summit meetings" at which interdisciplinary groups discussed the etiology of social violence and how cruelty to animals may be associated with violent acts against other victims.

Implicit in all this work has been the assumption that child welfare professionals, animal welfare and control officers, domestic violence shelter staff, and veterinarians accept the premise that cruelty to animals is linked to other forms of

violence. Another assumption is that representatives of these disciplines are eager to use awareness of this connection to enhance their intervention and prevention programs. The reality, however, is that the humane services have appeared to be more ready to accept these ideas than their counterparts in human services. Little research on the subject has been aimed at the average workers in the field rather than administrators, directors, and industry leaders.

To help learn the extent to which ideas about the connections between child and animal abuse have filtered down to field personnel, and to help Latham decide what needs exist and where its expertise might best be directed, a Needs Assessment survey was developed and distributed. This report summarizes the results of that survey.

#### Methodology

An informal ten-question survey was mailed in January 1994 to an "educated random sampling" of individuals in 496 agencies as follows:

Child Protective Services (100); Source: American Humane Association, Children's Division

Animal Welfare Agencies (96); Source: Society of Animal Welfare Administrators

Animal Control Agencies (100); Source: List compiled internally

Domestic Violence Shelters (100); Source: National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Veterinarians (100); Source: American Veterinary Medical Association.

In addition, 86 surveys were sent to participants of the American Humane Association summit meetings.

One hundred and ninety-three responses were received from 43 states for an overall response rate of 33.2%.

## Results

### QUESTION 1:

***Do you believe there is a connection between cruelty to animals and child abuse or domestic violence?***

Respondents overwhelmingly believed there is such a connection.

### QUESTION 2:

***How would you rate cruelty to animals compared to child abuse or domestic violence?***

57% of the respondents saw the three forms of violence as equal social problems. Child protective services professionals and domestic violence respondents were much more likely to see child and spouse abuse as more of a problem. Only 20% of animal welfare respondents felt cruelty to animals was more of an issue. Sixty-eight percent of them felt animal cruelty was equal to violence directed against human victims.

### QUESTION 3:

***Would learning more about the connections between cruelty to animals and other forms of family violence be beneficial to you in your work?***

Respondents in all categories overwhelmingly (88%) expressed interest in learning more about child/animal abuse connections.

### QUESTION 4:

***Do child protective services or domestic violence caseworkers in your area encounter situations where cruelty to animals may also be occurring? If so, do they report their observations to animal welfare or animal control agencies?***

While most respondents (58%) felt child protective services and domestic violence workers do encounter animal abuse in their work, apparently cross-reporting is neither consistent, systematic, nor official policy.

### QUESTION 5:

***Do animal welfare or animal control officers in your area encounter situations where child abuse or domestic violence may also be occurring? If so, do they report their observations to appropriate social service agencies?***

Similarly, cross-reporting here was haphazard and non-systematic. However, animal control and welfare respondents were much more likely to respond that they reported child and spouse abuse than were child protective service and domestic violence respondents to report animal abuse.

Respondents were often appreciative.

*"Thank you for caring,"* wrote one.

*"My husband is a veterinarian.*

*We've discussed signs he can look for  
for possible referrals.*

*Thanks for your work."*

### QUESTION 6:

***Do child protective services, domestic violence, and animal care/control personnel in your area ever receive cross-training from each other?***

This question, more than any other, elicited the most interest. Many responded that such cross-training would be "a great idea." An average of 61% of all respondents felt such cross training would be beneficial. However, only 13% said such cross-training occurs.

### QUESTION 7:

***Do child protective service and domestic violence agencies in your area include information about animals in the household when gathering information during intakes, risk assessments, placements, interviews, or other opportunities?***

Like Question 6, this generated significant commentary and support (63%) as an idea worth pursuing. Only 39% of domestic violence agencies and 19% of CPS agencies reported they currently gather this information.

### QUESTION 8:

***Do veterinarians play a role in preventing child abuse, spouse abuse, or cruelty to animals? If not, should they?***

Only 25% of respondents felt veterinarians did not play such a role. Several responses showed veterinarians have a duty to prevent cruelty to animals but not necessarily child/spouse abuse.

### QUESTION 9:

***Can therapeutic interventions involving animals help children or spouses in abusive homes?***

One-half of the respondents felt there are opportunities for animal-assisted therapy in these cases, although several respondents noted that the welfare of any animals involved could not be compromised if they, too, might become victimized.

### QUESTION 10:

***What can the Latham Foundation do to best meet your needs?***

Universally favored were the production of training videos and the establishment of community coalitions against violence.



Write, fax, or call the Latham Foundation for a complete copy of the Needs Assessment Analysis.

these predators, they are still considered pests. Massive education programs are the first step to reintroduction. People living near the proposed site must be convinced the animals are beneficial. A program to reintroduce Eurasian lynx to their original range in Italy has been abandoned because of strong opposition from local people. A similar plan in France has resulted in increased illegal hunting of lynx, with the last radio collared animal killed this year.

The news is not all bad. Habitat protection plans are increasingly popular all over the world. Reserves such as the Cockscombe Jaguar Preserve in Belize provide safe haven for five smaller felidae species. An increasing number of countries are taking steps to save natural areas, with local people given jobs guarding the parks and wildlife. Field studies are planned for many of the smaller species. Groups such as ours are increasing awareness of these small predators and the dangers they face.

Public concern and increased education on a global scale can save wild cats. In return for the many, many hours of pleasure our pet cats give us, the least we can do is protect and preserve their remarkable wild cousins.

*Reprinted courtesy of Animal Kind, Vol. 14 No. 4 and the author. Animal Kind is published by the Alberta (Canada) SPCA.*

*Pat Bumstead is Director of the International Society for Endangered Cats (ISEC) Canada, Inc. For more information, write to her at 124 Lynnbrook Road, SE, Calgary, AB, CANADA T2C 1S6 or phone (403) 279-5892.*



Remember  
to Recycle



### Moran Finds New Pet-Sitting Industry Group

Latham believes there are often many benefits to leaving a pet in its own familiar surroundings rather than in a boarding kennel when owners must travel.

Patti J. Moran, author of *Pet Sitting for Profit—A Complete Manual for Professional Success*, has founded Pet Sitters International, a new professional association for pet sitters. Moran describes her new organization as a “no-frills” association for full-and part-time professional pet sitters. Through PSI, members can get low-cost group liability insurance and the publication *The Professional Pet Sitter*, and discounts on pet-sitting products and services. For further information about Pet Sitters International, contact PSI, 418 East King Street, King, NC, 27021, 910-983-9222. For a catalog of market-tested pet sitting products, write or call Patti Moran’s Products for Professional Pet Sitters, 540 High Bridge Road, Pinnacle, NC 27043, 910-983-2444.

### The Power of Compassion Video Available

The Latham Foundation congratulates the producers of an outstanding video in which the basic rationale and need for humane education is convincingly presented. The Power of Compassion, a twenty-one minute, professionally produced video is suitable for presentation to viewers of all ages. “Power” was produced by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Illinois with support from the Geraldine Dodge Foundation. It is available from Pyramid Film and Video at a reduced rate of \$195 for humane societies or animal control facilities. Pyramid’s phone number is 310-828-7577.



THE ANTI-CRUELTY SOCIETY

### College Offers Course in Therapeutic Riding

According to the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, Centenary College in Hacketstown, New Jersey began offering courses in therapeutic riding in January 1994.

Octavia Brown of Bedminster, New Jersey is the instructor for the first course, Introduction to Therapeutic Riding, which carries three credits. The college is hopeful this initial course will be successful and that additional funding for a full therapeutic riding curriculum will be secured. Centenary College is a four-year liberal arts college with an established equine studies program. Therapeutic riding would be a minor concentration within the equine studies department.

For further information contact Centenary College, Hacketstown, New Jersey or the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, P.O. Box 33150, Denver, CO 80233, 800-369-7433

# Israel Conference Puts the Link Between Animal and Child Abuse on the Public Agenda

Nina Natelson

Concern for Helping Animals in Israel's conference "Preventing Violence in Society Through Education" was a great success. The conference, which was co-sponsored by Israel's Ministry of Education, was held March 22-23 in Ramat Gan (a suburb of Tel Aviv). It represented a major breakthrough in mainstreaming concern for animals and humane education in Israel.

The Ministry told the organizers to expect an audience of 100-150 teachers and school psychology counselors, so it was quite a surprise when well over 1,200 asked to attend. We moved to the largest room available (450 seats), and advised the remaining people wishing to attend that the proceedings and a videotape would be available.

The Conference and its message received extensive attention on television programs such as the five o'clock news and "Boker Tov" (Israel's version of "Good Morning, America"). We also received radio and newspaper coverage. Our efforts succeeded in placing the link between animal abuse and child abuse and the necessity of fostering humane values in society on the public agenda.

Experts from the U. S. and Israel shared the results of studies that show the link between child and animal abuse. Then, workshops in various subjects showed how to incorporate humane education into the regular school curriculum.

Speakers from the U. S. included Dr. Frank Ascione, Associate Professor of Psychology at Utah State University and author of several studies on the link between animal abuse and child abuse; Dr. Barbara Boat, Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Cincinnati and Director of the Program



Tower in Old City of Jaffa (a suburb of Tel Aviv) near site of March 1994 conference, "Preventing Violence in Society Through Education"

on Childhood Trauma and Maltreatment; Dr. Jonathan Balcombe, Assistant Director of Education, Laboratory Animal Division of the Humane Society of the U.S.; Rebecca Taksel, currently a Professor of Writing at Point Park College in Pittsburgh, PA and formerly the Executive Director of the New

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*The Conference succeeded in placing the link between animal abuse and child abuse and the necessity of fostering humane values in society on the public agenda.*

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England Anti-Vivisection Society with responsibility over the organization's humane education division; and Ellen Abelson, a humane educator with the American

Humane Education Society. One speaker came from England — Ms. Cindy Milburn, Director of Special Projects for the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA). Israeli speakers included Dr. Hanita Zimrin, President of ELI, Israel Association for Child Protection, and Dr. Ruth Resnick, founding Director of the Women's Aid Center, two shelters for battered women. Murry Cohen, M.D., a psychiatrist in private practice, CHAI Advisory Board member, and co-Chair of the Medical Research Modernization Committee (MRMC), chaired the conference. MRMC is an organization of medical professionals opposed to animal research on scientific grounds.

Dr. Ascione pointed out that cruelty to animals in childhood and adolescence is probably more common than we imagine, and sometimes, it may represent a significant symptom of psychological disturbance. According to Dr. Ascione, "Cruelty to animals is imbedded in broader issues of psychological health and disturbance." Animal abuse may be an indicator of physical and/or sexual abuse and of a violent family and community environment. If we are to succeed in preventing or stopping such behavior, it is important that we understand the various motives behind it.

In the second day workshop for school psychology counselors, Dr. Ascione reviewed the studies that have been done on the child/animal abuse link and distributed a bibliography he compiled of 137 articles and studies. He explained the symptoms of the psychiatric diagnosis of "conduct disorder," which includes animal cruelty and fire setting. He discussed various motivations for cruelty to animals. Ascione

*CONFERENCE, continued on next page*

also distributed a questionnaire he developed for interviewing parents and children to uncover cruelty or kindness to animals, and a rating scale to detect the severity of the cruelty. The scale includes questions such as how often, how early, and whether the cruelty was performed alone in secret or with others. Finally, Dr. Ascione spoke about the importance of strengthening laws against cruelty to animals to reduce violence in society.

Dr. Boat told the very moving story of Lauren, a young sexually abused child that she treated over many years. Dr. Boat pointed out that Lauren's drawing of a horse and her revelation that the horse had been abused is typical of the way children use animal figures symbolically in their play to reveal their fears, conflicts and feelings. According to Dr. Boat, "Children who have been abused in multi-victim situations, such as day care center locales, will reveal abuse of



Murry Cohen, M.D., a psychiatrist in private practice, CHAI Advisory Board member, and co-Chair of the Medical Research Modernization Committee (MRMC), chaired the conference.

and imagined, with kindness and gentleness."

In the second day workshop, Dr. Boat discussed dissociative disorders and distributed a checklist to use in evaluating children for these disorders. Children who have been abused may often dissociate or lose the ability to pay attention for a long

situation."

Dr. Balcombe pointed out that we are all teachers, and the examples we set are crucial in helping children to adopt humane attitudes. "The most direct, effective way to teach humaneness is to be humane," he said. Dr. Balcombe stressed the importance of teaching empathy for animals and the importance of the individual animal, rather than the species or nature. "The unit of pain and suffering is not the species. It is the individual." Drs. Zimrin and Resnick spoke about abuse of women and children in Israeli society. Cindy Milburn spoke about WSPA's successful humane education program in Costa Rica, conducted under the auspices of that country's Ministry of Education (and for which the Latham Foundation provided film footage), and Ms. Taksel led a workshop on humane education at the junior high and high school level.

The conference organizers targeted teachers and school psychology counselors rather than social workers primarily on the advice of Dr. Hanita Zimrin, who suggested that social workers would be overloaded with cases and too focused on solving immediate human problems to be inclined to give the subject the time and attention it deserved. Although teachers and school counselors are also overburdened, Dr. Zimrin advised that the information would likely be seen by them as immediately useful in reducing violence and helping children in the school where they teach. Additionally, humane education would enable teachers to feel good about taking positive action to improve the situation in their school. Teachers are the ones who most easily can make a difference. The head of Israel's Union of Social Workers confirmed Dr. Zimrin's advice.

If we needed further impetus in the direction of concentrating our efforts on educators, it was provided by the Ministry of Education's willingness to cooperate

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*According to Dr. Jonathan Balcombe,*

*humane education may be defined as "teaching others to value life, Be it the life of animals or of other people."*

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animals before abuse of another child or of themselves. A wise investigator will ask if animals were present at the time of the abuse and if they got hurt."

As in Lauren's case, Dr. Boat explained that animals are often used to instill fear in children to control their behavior. Children are threatened with mutilation or death of a pet to keep them silent, or animals are beaten, mutilated and killed. They are told "If you tell, this will happen to you." Animals can also be the focus of a child's healing play. According to Dr. Boat, "Children like Lauren can re-parent themselves and work through their traumas by caring for animals, real

time. Dr. Boat called on teachers to be more alert to the signs of these disorders and advocated a more gentle approach in dealing with children who suffer from them.

Dr. Jonathan Balcombe, HSUS's Assistant Director of Education, Lab Animals Division, offered humane education as "a crucial and promising route to the solution of cruelty and violence." He defined humane education as "teaching others to value life, be it the life of animals or of other people. Humane education does not mean teaching children what to think, but rather, giving them the information and skills needed to come to a humane, responsible, just decision in any

with us by putting on the conference, and notifying teachers and counselors. The Ministry printed and distributed invitations to the heads of 3,000 schools in Israel; printed and distributed posters announcing the conference for teachers' lounges, offered in-service credit and a pay raise to all educators who attended; and sent two high-level representatives to speak at the event.

The conference participants were very receptive to the message that developing empathy in children through humane education will help prevent violence in society. We won the interest and pledges of involvement and cooperation of



*Frank Ascione, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology at Utah State University and author of several studies on the link between animal abuse and child abuse*

on the topic of the child/animal abuse link to be conducted in the future.

As a first step, CHAI will create packets of information for the schools and establish ongoing seminars for teachers and counselors as part of their continuing education. The seminars and materials will focus on the animal/human violence link and the need for humane education to develop empathy in children. CHAI has also requested that a "Year of the Animals" be declared for the 1996/7 school year, just as the Ministry has sponsored other topics of focus for a particular school year, such as a "Year of the Environment," a "Year of Democracy," and starting next September, the "Year of Peach." A "Year of the Animals" would be the perfect time to introduce humane education throughout the school system. We will cooperate with the Ministry to develop a suitable program to achieve that goal.

The Ministry had suggested that the end of March would have been the best time for a conference because the teachers would be on vacation. We discovered, however, that only the Jewish schools were on vacation. Therefore, the Arab teachers, counselors, and principals that could attend requested that we repeat the conference in June of 1995 so that more of the Arab community could also benefit from the informa-

tion disseminated. They anticipate that the number of people seeking to attend a second conference will exceed 1,000. If funding permits, we will bring this idea to fruition.

The 1994 Israel conference helped thousands of teachers and school psychology counselors understand the seriousness of animal abuse and the importance of taking action to prevent or stop it. The conference was made possible primarily through generous contributions from CHAI members, particularly from Olive Walker of California, from the World Society for the Protection of Animals, and from the American Anti-Vivisection Society. Contributions were also received from the Humane Society of the U.S., the MSPCA's American Humane Education Association, the International Society for Animal

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*"Teachers are the ones  
who can most easily make a  
difference."*

Dr. Hanita Zimrin

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Rights, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, and United Action for Animals.

To order the proceedings and videotape of the conference, to offer help with funding the 1995 conference for Arab educators and counselors, contact Concern for Helping Animals in Israel (CHAI) at P.O. Box 3341, Alexandria, VA 22302. Telephone 703-658-9650; Fax 703-941-6132.



Charge-It



For your convenience you may charge subscriptions, renewals and video orders using your MasterCard or VISA.



*Nina Natelson, conference organizer and executive director of Concern for Helping Animals in Israel*

hundreds of teachers and school psychology counselors who attended. The teachers themselves initiated a petition to the Ministry of Education to let it know that they would like to see this information incorporated into the school system. The Ministry has agreed to cooperate on future educational efforts, and 70 teachers have already expressed willingness to help develop suitable humane education materials for every grade level. Drs. Ascione and Boat distributed data collection forms at the conference that will enable U. S.-Israeli studies

# The D.J. "Respect for Living Things" Program (Pet-Inspired Values Development)

## First Person Report on Humane Education in Action

Pearl Salotto

*Touchingly, the benefits of the Human Animal Companion Bond seem to know no limit. Through loving interaction with D.J., my eight-year-old Samoyed, and by observing her unconditional love to all, youngsters of all ages and in a variety of settings have learned many things. I believe their lives have been forever changed.*

The D.J. "Respect for Living Things" Program is a curriculum designed for school children of all ages (preferably starting in the primary grades). It begins with the very simple idea that animals are living things and gradually moves to more sophisticated concepts such as that communication is a peaceful way to resolve conflict. I developed this curriculum, which uses my dog D.J. to motivate and inspire, to help youngsters enjoy positive experiences, leading to their making constructive choices as they embark on this adventure we call LIFE.

All relationships leave their mark, for better or worse, on our hearts and souls and on our behavior. From the day of birth (and even before), impressions of all experiences whether consciously remembered or not, stay with us. Perhaps this is our real challenge as a society: We need to see that the experiences we give our youngsters are healthy and wholesome.

In 1918, Edith Latham and her brother Milton founded the Latham Foundation to teach children kindness through respect for each other, animals, and the environment — hopefully leading to a less violent world. The D.J. "Respect for Living Things" Program has the same simple but powerful life changing message.

Even unspoken lessons are learned as D.J. walks up and down the

*Christian Preston, Christopher Globe, and D.J. (Dog of Joy) are happy participants in the Woonsocket, Rhode Island Children's Crusade.*



aisles of children's outstretched hands in classrooms or rotates around a circle of eager young ones

sitting amid pine trees in Rhode Island campgrounds or on YMCA's gymnasium floors (warmed through caring interaction). D.J.'s presence — with her own unique personality — her enthusiasm for life, her spontaneous initiation of friendship with everyone — creates a lasting realization of her "aliveness" and her goodness.

Through such interactions, D.J. teaches the curriculum's first topic (Are animals living things?) by herself — on her own. (Therapy dogs are taught to "Go Say Hello," but more often than not they say hello on their own simply because they love people. This is really what qualifies them for being therapy dogs in the first place.) I have seen D.J., even after everyone has been greeted and seated, spontaneously get up to greet a youngster just arriving, so as not to leave any one out. To say that D.J. boosts self-esteem would be the understatement of the year. It's clear to me also that she brings forth feelings of gentleness, kindness, and nurturing. The discussion then quickly turns from children stating that D.J. made them feel loved, to their recognizing that they have a responsibility to give love back to animals and to people from whom they receive it. We discuss ways animals and people give love. Children readily recognize that love is caring and sharing, listening and cooperating, rather than the purchase of material things. The

children find it easy to describe ways we can give love and respect back to animals and people. Touching responses include, for example, that, "You don't leave animals out in the cold, that when friends come over you teach them the rules about how to treat the family pet, and that therapy dogs make older people happy — and they deserve to be happy too." These youngsters seem to understand that we all deserve love and respect and that we all have feelings and needs. Children who perhaps have never talked about feelings before are comfortable opening up in this "sharing and caring" environment that has been set up by D.J. and the children's spontaneous gentle response.

There is something strikingly touching about D.J.'s entering a gym and being greeted by a dozen youngsters. Almost without any words spoken, D.J. and I sort of "melt" to the floor with the children taking their places around us. Many hands gently and rhythmically petting D.J. without any arguing, pushing, and hollering.

However, D.J. and I only enter a room this way when I sense that all present can handle themselves calmly. I usually ask that the children be seated and then I proceed in a structured manner - with one child at a time petting D.J. The Pet Assisted Therapy profession requires that a therapist have the judgment and commitment to be aware of



*Nicole Menard and Socanthy Soeung enjoy D.J.'s unconditional love.*



*Ross Salotto and D.J. exemplify the bond of love and reverence for life.*

PHOTO CREDIT: ANTHONY SALOTTO

the safety of their therapy animal at all times. Activities need to be structured with this in mind. Therefore, in my opinion, whether a Pet Assisted Therapist works with a beloved dog like D.J.; a giant steer named Bumper (the beloved pet of Dr. Dillman, who developed the Companion Animal Dropout Prevention Program of Dade County, Florida); or whether the therapist is a "Purr-Ball Bundle of Love;" a cockatiel or a guinea pig, it is the bond of love between the animal and the Pet Therapist that should be the primary requirement for working in this profession.

As universities develop programs educating Pet Assisted Therapists, and certifying bodies set a professional Code of Ethics, these principles of Respect and Concern for the well-being of the people and animals with whom we work will underlie all interactions. Not surprisingly, these are the very principles that I'm helping the children internalize, so they will become the caring professionals of tomorrow.

As the discussion with the children goes on, their own comments lead into the concepts I am trying to convey. Invariably some child will mention how special and unique D.J. is. This gives me a wonderful opportunity to let the children know that each of them is special and unique, and that there is no one else in the world just like each of them. As I ask the children to think about what makes them special and unique and as the realization gradually dawns on them, this awareness of their own special identity has a powerful and possibly life-changing

impact. (Chances are that if this comment had been suggested to them in another context, it might not have had the same effect.) In this case, they realize it themselves through getting to know D.J. and experiencing her uniqueness.

Once the children have internalized the idea of uniqueness, it is not a big step to begin the lifelong challenge of applauding their strengths and accepting their weaknesses. Whether a youngster doesn't have 20/20 vision or isn't best on the baseball team — he/she still has the awesome knowledge of his/her uniqueness, with its balance of positives and negatives.

As the youngsters have already recognized that D.J. loves everyone, I can then speak about what it means to a Pet Assisted Therapy Dog and how D.J. (through unconditional love) enhances the quality of life of individuals in nursing homes and hospitals. I deal with this topic slowly, with pictures as an aid, allowing the children to gradually become sensitive to the needs and feelings of the elderly.

It is easy for the children to take another step and realize that, just as D.J. eagerly relates to everyone regardless of race, religion, economic status or health status, that type of decent behavior is their challenge as well.

These concepts are of course adapted to differing age groups. Academics, if appropriate, can be introduced by writing basic questions (i.e., Are animals living

things?) on the board, praising the children for reading them, which leads into a discussion of the importance of education. Follow up writing and art projects can take place, and a book club with a kindness theme. A career oriented speaker series, nursing home visits and even an environmental advocacy club could also form.

Time permitting, many extension concepts can be developed. For example, the idea that D.J. is a working dog can open a whole discussion of careers. The fact that we need to be calm and quiet around D.J. can initiate a session or sessions (including role playing) about alternatives to physical/verbal violence.

Our responsibility to animals is one of the major themes of the whole program. It is easy for children to see that no one has any business having animals (or children) unless they can commit the time, energy, and necessary sacrifices to care for a living thing. Thus, the program becomes a tool for pregnancy prevention, substance abuse prevention, and dropout prevention due to enhanced self-esteem and focusing toward values, education, goal setting, and careers. When self-respect is enhanced, kindness and concern toward others (people, animals, and the environment) will follow. Another outgrowth of reverence for life, is a new sense of meaning in life and empowerment that each of us can make a difference.

D.J.'s simple message of love for

*D.J., continued on page 22*

## Book Reviews

### 4-H Skills for Life Animal Science Series



There are many opportunities to help children develop long-range values promoting kindness to, and respect for, animals sharing the living environment. One such opportunity, often overlooked, is the 4-H community, which play a major role with children in rural areas where humane societies often are not active. A new curriculum has been developed for 4-H, which can easily be adapted to children's clubs, after-school groups, camps, and other audiences to extend humane education outreach.

The *4-H Skills for Life Animal Science Series* is a collection of 45 activity guides, with three guides plus a leader's guidebook in each of 11 species (dog, cat, pet, beef, dairy, goat, horse, poultry, rabbit, sheep, swine). There is also an overall topic of "Exploring Farm Animals." The Guides are attractively illustrated with cartoons and richly integrated with interesting facts, games,

puzzles, quizzes, and activities. Significantly, they use an experiential learning model: children do an activity, share with their group what happened, process what's important, generalize the experience to their lives, and then apply what they've learned.

Each species' three guides are designed for beginning (ages 9-11), intermediate (ages 12-14) and advanced (ages 15-18) learners, although children are encouraged to work at whatever level is most appropriate for them. Learning is reinforced through long-term commitment: a child has one year to choose seven activities and complete them. The guides are suitable both for children who currently have animals and for those who do not but want to learn what animals might be best for them and their families.

Interestingly, the activities focus not just on the context of responsible animal care but equally on vital life-long learning processes such as public speaking, writing skills, working with other people, decision-making, taking risks, planning, organizing, and learning to learn. Children set their own goals and time frames for completing the activities and choose an adult project helper to assist them.

We reviewed the Dog guides and were most pleased. Activities include touring an animal shelter, taking pictures of dogs, showing at a fun match, recording a week's worth of dog/family interactions, interviewing owners of guide or service dogs, identifying breeds, showing how to clean a dog's teeth or give it medication, and understanding body language.

Beginning learners use "Bounding Ahead" to learn geographical origins of breeds, overpopulation, solutions to behavioral problems, cooperative shopping for pet food and laws affecting animals.

Advanced learners use "Pointing

the Way" to solve overpopulation problems, understand zoonoses, write Public Service Announcements, and explore careers working with animals.

Humane educators could easily adapt many of these exercises for classroom use or as take-home activities. Role-playing activities are innovative and admirable. There are excellent lists of "idea starters": activities to do with youth, local resources, and group project meeting ideas.

We were particularly impressed with how many important humane and human-animal bond topics have been included, and with the leaders' guide discussion of children's developmental needs and learning styles at various age levels. About the only deficiency was the national resource list of books, associations, companies, and magazines, which could have been more comprehensive.

The *4-H Skills for Life Animal Science Series* was developed by teams of Extension Service educators, volunteers, youths, professional writers, and artists from 12 Upper Midwest states. And it's printed on recycled paper.

*Reviewed by Phil Arkow*

### 4-H Skills for Life Animal Science Series

Minnesota Extension Service  
University of Minnesota  
Distribution Center, 20 Coffey Hall  
St. Paul, MN 55108-6069

Each set (3 Guides plus Leader's  
Guidebook for one species) \$8.00  
Complete set of 45 Guides: \$80.00  
Credit Card Orders:  
1-612-625-8173

### Vegetarian Asia: A Travel Guide

To quote its author Teresa Bergen, "*Vegetarian Asia: A Travel Guide* is a dietary supplement, not a main

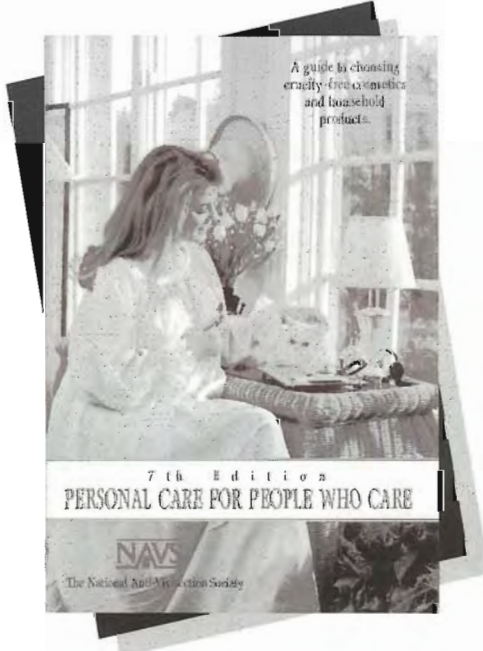
*Editor's Note: The Latham Foundation reviews humane and related environmental books. To order, please contact the publishers directly.*

course. It won't help you find a room or catch a bus, but it will tell you how to communicate your

### **Personal Care for People Who Care:**

*A guide for choosing cruelty-free cosmetics and household products*

The Seventh Edition of *Personal Care for People Who Care* is a comprehensive guide to the animal testing policies of makers and retailers of cosmetic, household, personal care and companion animal products. It includes: product testing information and alternatives, federal agency information, a list of companies that do and don't test on animals, companies that test their product ingredients, product reference guide, and parent company and brand listing. This guide will help you find — and use — cruelty-free products.



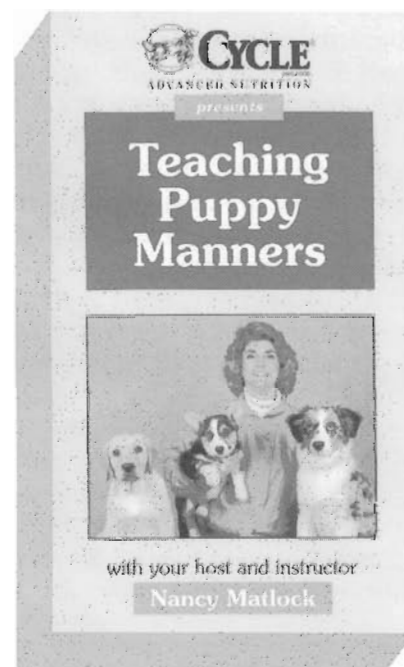
*The National Anti-vivisection Society*  
53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 1552  
Chicago, IL 60604  
312-427-6065, Fax 312-427-6524  
or 800-888-NAVS (6287), \$4.95

### **Teaching Puppy Manners - A New Video**

This VHS video guide features well-known dog trainer Nancy

Matlock. In just 75 minutes, new puppy owners can learn how to train their pet simply and quickly.

In this informative tape, Nancy and several canine friends guide puppy owners through the steps needed to teach manners to their puppy in a humane, easy, and practical way—a way that makes learning fun for them and their puppy. Nancy takes them through such pertinent topics as: canine instincts, housebreaking, diet and nutrition,



teaching manners, becoming the leader, and beginning training.

*Teaching Puppy Manners*  
J&J Show Supplies Inc., Dept. 13  
P.O. Box 1484  
Galesburg, IL 61402  
\$29.95 plus \$4.00 shpg & hndlng

(Readers can save \$10.00 off the list price by sending a UPC code from any Cycle Dog Food product along with their order.)

### **Pets-R-Permitted: Hotel, Motel, Kennel & Petsitter Travel & Pets Directory**

Just in time for summer, the 93-94 edition of the Pets-R-Permitted

BOOK REVIEWS, continued on next page

### **Vegetarian Asia:**

**A Travel Guide**



**Teresa Bergen**

special diet." It does this in a most interesting and delightful way.

Hunting for vegetarian food in a country where you don't speak the language can make you want to fly straight home. *Vegetarian Asia* will help you get the food you need with a minimum of hassles: Learn how to say, "I'm a vegetarian" in ten languages; discover the vegetarian histories and traditions of Asia; find out which dishes of each country are vegetarian; decipher Asian food customs and learn how to eat like a local; and very importantly, decrease your stress level. Enjoy your trip instead of worrying about what you'll eat.

*Vegetarian Asia* is lightweight, easy to pack, and fills a unique niche in the world of travel guides.

### **Vegetarian Asia: A Travel Guide**

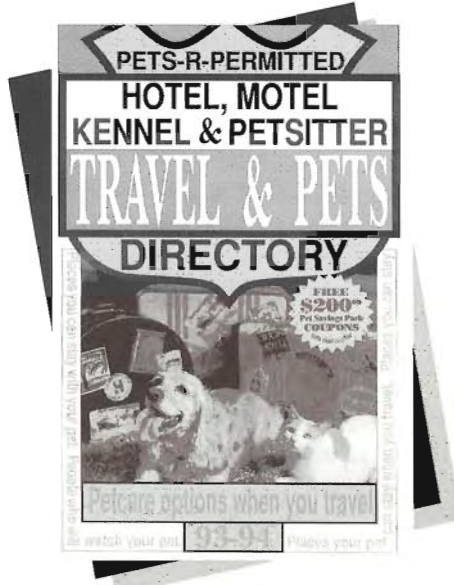
Teresa Bergen  
Noble Poodle Press  
P.O. Box 641188  
San Francisco, CA 94109  
ISBN 0-9640214-4-7  
(paperback): \$9.95

directory is available. The directory lists more than 4,000 hotels and motels that allow pets, 1,000 boarding kennels for day-kenneling along the way or for extended boarding stays, hundreds of petsitters across the U.S., pet day-care facilities at major tourist attractions, an AAHA veterinary location 800 number, and more than 25 pages of expert information about pets and travel. Special features include nearly 50 posh "five paw" places for "haute dogs" and "classy cats" and their owners. For example, Chicago's Omni Ambassador East has a V.I.P. Pets Program that includes evening turn down service of blankets on cushy pet beds and a dog bone or cat toy on the pillow for an extra \$15 a night. At the San Ysidro Ranch in Santa Barbara, California, privileged pets have their own registration at the front desk.

The editors are careful to remind readers that whether one is staying at the posh Hotel Bel-Air in Los Angeles or a Motel 6, pets must be registered and declared and kept under strict control by their considerate owners. Those planning to travel with their pets are advised to plan and call ahead for current policies.

According to a survey by the

American Animal Hospital Association, six out of ten pet owners travel with their pets. Whether you do or you don't, the Pets-R-Permitted directory can be your ticket to safe and pleasant travel or successful boarding and pet-sitting. An expanded



edition with 10,000 listings is scheduled for publication later this summer.

#### **Pets-R-Permitted**

The Annenberg Communications  
Institute

P.O. Box 3930

Torrance, CA 90510-3930

310-515-7387, \$10.95 pp, MC &

Visa orders, 800-274-7297



all and the bond that children share with her, touching them and inspiring them toward internalizing deepened values and reverence for life, follows proudly in the Latham tradition, exemplifying kindness toward all living things.

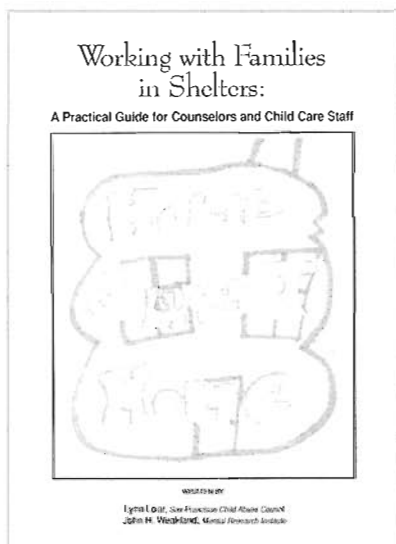
In a world where some teenagers have seen so much violence that they are already planning their own funerals and where metal detectors in schools rob children of their innocence and their lives, it is my hope that this curriculum will be a creative educational initiative for our future.

Spreading programs like this, which is Latham's mission as well as D.J.'s and mine, is probably our best hope for a better future for our children and grandchildren and the animals with whom they will share the world.

*The D.J. "Respect for Living Things" Pet Inspired Values Development Program, which began informally, is now a five-step curriculum with follow up activities, readings, and a kindness club. For further information and a copy of the curriculum, contact Pearl Salotto, 173 Easton Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02888, 401-463-5809.*



## Latham Prints Training Guide for Counselors and Child Care Staff



The Latham Foundation, which for 75 years has promoted respect for all life through education, is doing everything within its power to educate the public and professional communities about links between cruelty to animals with other forms of family violence. Additionally, Latham promotes innovative strategies that reduce violence against vulnerable members of society.

The training guide *Working with Families in Shelters: A Practical Guide for Counselors and Child Care Staff*, which the Foundation printed is an example of one such innovation.

According to its authors Drs. Lynn Loar and John Weakland, the purpose of the guide is to provide a practical and streamlined way to work with severely troubled families and to provide a context in which to examine the effectiveness of interventions. **Chapters include:** *Working with Adults; Caring for Children; Dealing with Abuse; Understanding the (California) Court System.*

Contact Latham at 510-521-0920 or Dr. Lynn Loar at the San Francisco Child Abuse Council. (415-668-0494) for a copy of the guide.

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# CHILD AND ANIMAL ABUSE PREVENTION (CAAP) NEWS

... PROMOTING COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS INVOLVING CHILD AND ANIMAL WELFARE AGENCIES.

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## Wisconsin Coalition Organizes Anti-Abuse Conference

Phil Arkow

**L**a Crosse, Wisconsin, has joined the ranks of American cities that have organized a community against violence, linking humane and human services in a coordinated attack against those who would abuse the vulnerable members of the family.

The Community Coalition Against Violence (CCAV) was organized by agency leaders who believe that by combining their resources they can begin to break the cycle of violence that has taken hold in the world, society in general, and even in the sleepy college town of 50,000 on the banks of the Mississippi River. CCAV was formed to develop and provide coordinated intervention and prevention strategies to reduce the level of violence to human and non-human family members, says Christine Keeney Miller, one of the organizers.

A highlight of the fledgling group was staging a breakthrough seminar, "The Tangled Web: Animal Cruelty and Family Violence", March 31 - April 1, 1994, at the University of Wisconsin — La Crosse, which offered 1.2 continuing education units. Co-sponsored by the University's Continuing Education and Extension Service; the Coulee Region Humane Society; the Domestic Violence Intervention Project; Wisconsin Center for the Study of Animal Welfare; University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, Women's Study Department, and New Horizons Women's Shelter, the historic meeting attracted 82 representatives from child protection, animal welfare, animal control, police, prosecutors, education, juvenile probation, nursing, and animal rights groups in

Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa to focus on their common interest.

National speakers were flown in to galvanize the local audience into action. Frank Ascione, Ph.D., came from Logan, Utah to review children's social development in abusive environments and the latest research on violence against vulnerable family members. Lynn Loar, Ph.D., described her work with what she called "feral children" on the streets of San Francisco, and how developmental distortion, betrayal, powerlessness, and shame can all conspire to turn abused children into either future abusers or victims of domestic violence. Phil Arkow came from West Palm Beach, Florida to review the historical connections between humane and human services and to help those in child protection and domestic violence work identify and report cruelty to animals.

Regional speakers included Lisa Lembke, D.V.M., head of the Wisconsin Center for the Study of Animal Welfare, who described how to identify cruelty to animals, particularly in the rural or farm environment, and Andrew Sharp, District Attorney for Richland County, Wisconsin who explained the legal bases for cruelty and how to effectively prosecute child abuse, spousal abuse, and cruelty to animals.

Other speakers described how poor parenting and abusive parenting effect children; the role of animals in domestic violence; and establishing at-risk assessment systems in child protection.

Participants identified an extensive list of strategies that they could carry out on the local level, including:

- *Identifying resources in their own communities with whom they could collaborate;*
- *Including information about household animals, and how various family members relate to them, during intakes and risk assessments of abused children or battered women in shelters;*
- *Cross-training various disciplines to identify and report other forms of violence seen in one's work;*
- *Legislation to include veterinarians and animal care and control personnel among those mandated to report suspected child abuse to appropriate authorities;*
- *Speaking about the connection between cruelty to animals and family violence to local service clubs;*
- *Presenting the subject at state conferences of related groups, such as district attorneys, sheriffs, police officials, judges, and probation workers;*
- *Presenting the subject by guest lecturers in schools of social work;*
- *Having humane societies temporarily house pets belonging to families staying in safehouses;*
- *Having service officials serve on humane society boards of directors, and vice versa;*
- *Using animal-assisted therapy programs to help children who have been victimized, or abusers to learn there are non-violent ways to make a difference.*

CCAV maintains that violence is unacceptable, whether directed against man, woman, child, or animal, and recognizes that a clear and indisputable link exists between violent acts directed towards animals and those directed against humans. CCAV's four goals are to increase collaboration between humane and human service agencies, accumulate data on the correlations of various forms of violence,

educate the public about the issue, and to coordinate and standardize the intervention, prevention and reporting activities among the agencies involved.

Plans are already under way for a follow-up conference in 1995. Meanwhile, the Coalition will explore other innovative ways to develop a coordinated multi-agency response to the cycle of community violence.

**For information about the Community Coalition Against Violence, write  
CCAV, c/o Domestic Violence Intervention Project, 205 5th Ave. South, Suite 325, La Crosse, WI 54601.**

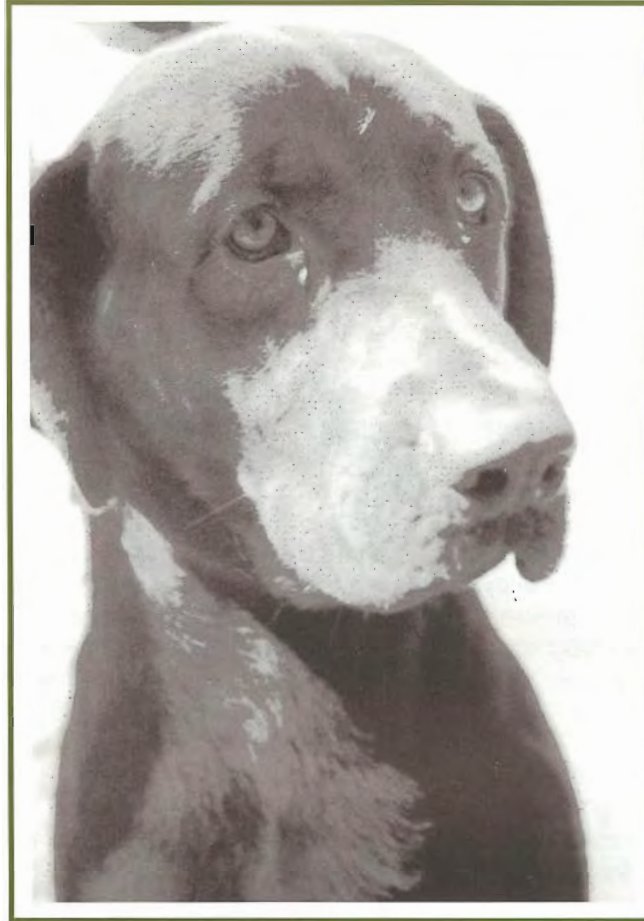


PHOTO CREDIT: ELLEN K. RUDOLPH, IMAGES IN NATURE 804-253-0749

*"The most direct, effective way to teach humaneness is to be humane. The most direct, effective way to teach nonviolence is to be nonviolent."*

Dr. Jonathan Balcombe  
March 22, 1994  
Ramat Gan, Israel



## The Latham Foundation

**Promoting Respect For All Life Through Education**

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