

Latham Letter

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PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

Healthy Growth for Hawaii's "Healthy Start"

One state's successful approach to the prevention of child abuse and neglect

*Gail Breakey, R.N., M.P.H.
and Betsy Pratt, M.Ed.*

*Hawaii Family Stress Center,
Honolulu, Hawaii*

In July, 1985, a demonstration child abuse and neglect prevention project began in Leeward, Oahu, a multiethnic, mixed urban and rural, fairly depressed community, with more than its share of problems – substandard housing, underemployed adults, substance abuse, mental illness, and child abuse and neglect. Three years later, an evaluation of the program revealed that not a single case of abuse among the project's 241 high risk families had been



Healthy and Happy Baby

PHOTO CREDIT: ALISON HOBBS

functioning among the families served.

By July, 1990, Healthy Start/Family Support services were expanded to 11 sites through appropriations of almost \$4 million by the state legislature and reached approximately 52 percent of at risk families of newborns throughout Hawaii.

The success of the 1985-1988 demonstration project was, of course, gratifying. But what may be even more remarkable is the institutionalization of the Healthy Start program with-

in the Maternal and Child Health Branch of Hawaii's Department of

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reported since the demonstration began. There was also evidence of reduced family stress and improved

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San Diego Child Protection Services Workers Now Required to Report Animal Abuse

Phil Arkow

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - An unprecedented interagency agreement has been signed requiring San Diego County Children's Services Bureau's caseworkers to report suspected instances of animal cruelty or neglect

to the county Department of Animal Control. The measure, believed to be the first of its kind in the U.S., took effect in April.

Under the agreement, any Children's Services Bureau social

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*The Latham Foundation
promotes respect for all life.*



*We are concerned about the well-being of children and adults as well as the four-footed creatures with whom Latham is most often associated. In this issue, we are pleased to emphasize the success of Hawaii's **Healthy Start** program and we urge your careful consideration.*

GUEST EDITORIAL

Animals Over Children?

*Michael Mountain, Editor,
Best Friends Magazine*

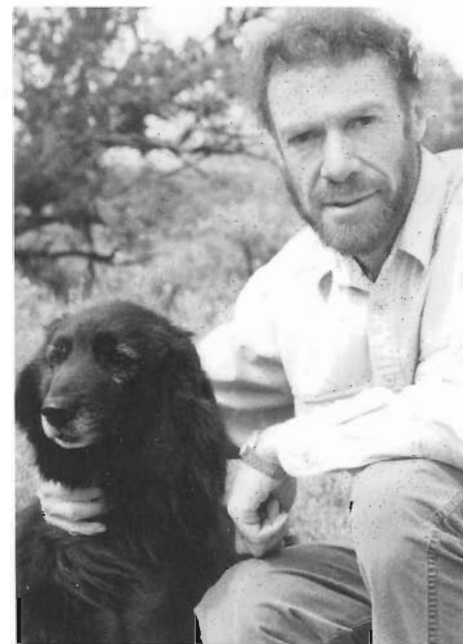
Fret not! When the Washington, D.C., Humane Society announced to the local media last month that it had run out of money, public pressure prompted the city government to issue a check for \$97,000 and a promise of more to come. A *Washington Post* columnist was not happy with the city's decision to support the animals:

"Children in this city are being shortchanged in school, and worse yet, being killed in the streets," wrote Courtland Milloy. "But fret not, D.C., for Fido and Garfield are resting warm and comfy this night."

Mr. Milloy does not, in fact, need to fret either. Helping the animals will not hurt the children. Quite the opposite. Helping children and helping animals go together. People who are kind to animals are kind to children, and those who abuse animals are usually the first to abuse people.

Hand in paw. Mother Teresa, one of the world's foremost helpers of children, wrote in a letter to an animal welfare person: "It is our duty to protect [the animals] and to promote their well being. A person who shows cruelty to these creatures cannot also be kind to other humans."

It's a mistake to assume that the problems that now plague our schools can be resolved with more money. Nor is it because of a shortage of money that young people are gunning each other down in the streets behind the White House. The problem, in the wealthiest and most powerful nation the world has ever known, is not a shortage of money, but a shortage of caring.



Michael Mountain and Buzzle

Providing more money will not in itself produce more caring; often it will simply cover up a more basic lack of caring. When the money runs out, the problem will simply return. On the other hand, more caring can often, in fact, produce greater prosperity. When we teach our young to care, we help them to prosper.

Something magical. It's always a pleasure when a group of disadvantaged inner-city kids come to spend time at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary. The experience of helping the animals is often a transforming one. Stray kid meets stray dog. Something magical happens between them.

"My neighborhood can be very dangerous, but animals are really cool, and people need to take care of them," wrote a young, inner-city kid last year. She was taking part in a Best Friends program to help animals, and learning how taking care of someone who truly needs help can do more to lift your own spirits than all of the school lessons in the world.

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OPINIONS

Pride in Michigan Coalition

Dear Latham,

I'm proud to be involved in the work taking place by the Michigan Humane society in reference to animal/child welfare consisting of physicians, social workers, protective service workers from the community, nursing staff from the hospital, law enforcement officials, etc. We meet weekly to review, discuss, and make recommendations for child abuse cases presenting at the hospital.

Diane Schuler,
Pediatric Nurse

Results of Research on Pet Ownership Attitudes Available

Dear Mr. Tebault:

As promised, I am sending a copy of the research project I conducted on pet ownership attitudes and attachment levels in non-institutionalized elderly pet owners.

I was particularly grateful for the variety of articles available for review. Such material layed the groundwork for development and implementation of this study. It is my intention to return the opportunity and to contribute to the knowledge of fellow animal lovers interested in the human-companion animal bond.

I thank you for the assistance your foundation offered me in locating valuable material on this subject.

Yours truly,

Laura Chappelone-Bevilacqua
25163 Copa Del Oro Drive, #102
Hayward, CA 94545
510-783-3860

(Editor's Note: Although space restrictions prevent us from reprinting the study, which suggests that community-based elderly pet owners experience strong attachment to their pets, we applaud Ms. Chappelone-Bevilacqua's efforts. Copies of the study are available from Ms. Chappelone-Bevilacqua.)

Project Breed

Dear Latham:

Thank you for "Don't Just Stand There - Do Something!" in the Spring '95 Latham Letter and for your outstanding publication.

Thought you might want to be aware of PROJECT BREED, Inc., if you were not already.

Thank you for your commitment to helping the abused, whether they be spouse, child or animal.

Kind regards,

Kathleen Chaplin



PROJECT BREED



Project BREED, Inc. (Breed Rescue Efforts and Education) is a national nonprofit 501 (C)(3) volunteer organization. It links breed-specific rescue groups with pounds and other animal care givers and the public to help homeless animals - pure-bred and mixed alike. Since Shirley Weber single-handedly researched, compiled, and published the first Project BREED Directory in the late 1980's, this animal rescue networking service has saved countless animal lives each year through a coalition of about 10,000 specialized volunteers. Project BREED currently offers a set of two companion directories that list nearly 3,000 rescue volunteers from all over the United States. For further information, send a business size (#10) self-addressed, stamped envelope to Project BREED, Inc., P.O. Box 15888, Chevy Chase, MD 20825-5888. The two-volume set of directories is \$40.05 (\$41.80 for orders shipped within Maryland.)

How Children's Drawings Express Attitudes Toward Pets

Aline H. Kidd and Robert M. Kidd

Although earlier studies have shown that when children draw pictures of themselves with family members and with pets, the distances they put between the self-figures and the other figures usually represent emotional distances, there have been no studies of large groups of average grade-school children. In order to study the relationship between distances indicated in such drawings and "emotional distance", all of the 5- through 14-year old kindergartners through eighth graders at a private school were asked to make drawings of themselves and a family member, and with a pet if they owned one, or just themselves and a family member if not.

Of the 242 children who responded to the request, 207 were pet-owners, and 35 were non-owners. Although the teachers may have over-stressed the "pet-owning" aspects of the request despite their instructions not to do so, the pet-owners seemed more willing to draw than the non-owners. Perhaps they wanted to show-off their pets or felt that pets made pictures more interesting.

All of the pet-owners drew themselves with their pet as well as a parent or a sibling. And most of the non-owners also drew themselves with a parent or sibling, but one-third of them drew themselves with a cousin, a grandmother, or a baby sitter. All of which suggests that family structure may be a variable factor affecting a child's ownership of a pet.

Because the pet-owners and non-owners showed no important differences in the amount of space they placed between themselves and the family members, we concluded that owning a pet doesn't necessarily affect the relationship between any child and the immediate family members. However, when the distances indicated

between themselves and specific family members were analyzed, no significant distance differences were found in the boys' drawings. The girls, however, drew their father-figures significantly further from themselves than they drew their mother or sibling-figures.

All the pet-owning children drew their pets closer to themselves than they drew their family members, probably a natural indication of greater emotional closeness to pets than to family members. But then, pets are ever-present and don't scold, criticize, or punish the children, so most child-pet relationships are more likely to be less complex than child family relationships.

There were, of course, some differences based on age. The younger the child, the further they placed their pets as well as their family member from themselves. This may be because the younger children's small size and length of stride makes spacial distances seem greater to them. Some of the youngest placed the family member closer to themselves than they did the pet, possibly because they feared separation from a family member, usually a mother, more than from a pet. And a very few of the younger children separated themselves from the pet by inserting the family member between them. These children probably had some fear of or were insecure about their relationships with the pets.

The type of pet also affected the distance placed between the self and the pet. Although some earlier studies have suggested that children prefer dogs to cats, we found no real difference in emotional distances the children indicated between themselves and their dogs or cats. Pet fish, however, were placed much further away from the self-figures than were dogs or cats which suggested a greater emotional attachment to dogs and cats

than to fish. Unlike dogs and cats, of course, fish are seldom playmates or companions! Indeed, we've already noted in several earlier investigations that touch, which is frequent with dogs and cats but impossible with fish, increases children's interest in and attachment to animals. Our present results, therefore, are further evidence that the distance between self-figures and other figures is a strong indication of emotional distance.

Aside from the amount of space top children placed between the figures, the drawings themselves helped to clarify other aspects of the special kinds of relationships between the children and their pets. In almost one-fifth of the pictures, the drawings indicated that the children were holding or cuddling their pets. Two 13-year-old boys drew themselves playing with their pets. Most of the children placed the pet, sitting or standing, immediately beside themselves. The older children drew themselves holding and/or petting their animal much more frequently than did the younger children.

The thirty-five 8- through 14-year-old who owned pets other than cats, dogs, or fish, were divided neatly into two groups: those who owned small caged animals such as birds, rabbits, rats, mice, snakes, iguanas, and turtles, and those who had farm animal pets such as pigs, goats, mules, and horses. All 35 drew their pets at about the same distance from themselves as did the cat and dog owners, but much closer than did the fish owners. Also, they placed the pets closer to themselves than they placed their family members. Seven of these children showed themselves holding and/or petting their rabbits, rats, mice, and snakes, and two girls drew themselves with their arms around their horses' necks. All the other unusual pets were drawn

standing beside their owners. Obviously, this group of unusual pet owners felt as close emotionally to their "different" pets as did the dog and cat owning children.

Overall, these drawings have provided interesting and valuable information about children's relationships with pet animals. But more work needs to be done. Future research should pick up on more drawings by children who own the more exotic and unusual pets. Analysis of drawings by school-age children showing themselves in relation to zoo and petting zoo animals would also expand our knowledge of how children really feel about animals in general and would help further clarify the child-pet emotional and intellectual relationships hinted at in the present study. Certainly, this knowledge is important if we are to expect our children to grow up into caring adults who will help work for the preservation of non-domestic and wild animals in the future.

Aline H. Kidd and Robert M. Kidd are affiliated with the Center for Animals in Society, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis.



EDITORIAL, continued from page 2

Perhaps, rather than isolating stray animals in shelters, and stray children in schools guarded by security officers and metal detectors, it's time to bring the children and the animals a little closer together. After all, what use is a degree in business or science if you never learned the Golden Rule, and failed in Kindness 101?

For further information contact Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, Kanab, Utah 84741. Telephone 801-644-2001.



worker, after receiving specific training, "in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, who has knowledge of or observes an animal whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of animal cruelty or neglect, shall report the instance to San Diego County Animal Control. The report shall be a fax of a specified form sent within 24 hours; in cases where very prompt action may be necessary to protect the health or safety of an animal or the health or safety of others, the report shall be made as soon as possible by telephone.

The agreement notes that this duty is to report - not to investigate such instances. Animal Control shall be responsible for the investigation of known or suspected animal cruelty or neglect, or in cases where the location of the incident is outside their jurisdiction to promptly transfer the report to the appropriate animal control agency.

All Children's Service Bureau social workers and their supervisors shall receive training in identifying and reporting suspected animal cruelty or neglect, and no worker is subject to the new reporting requirements unless he or she has received such training. New social workers will receive the required information during their initial training.

The training includes:

- the county code definitions of "animal," "torment," "torture," "cruelty," "owner," and "reasonable suspicion"
- descriptions of zoonotic diseases which may be transmitted to humans (rabies, ringworm, sarcoptic mange, coccidia, tapeworms, ticks, psittacosis, brucellosis)
- descriptions of commonly-observed animal trauma (limping, vomiting, diarrhea, coughing, ocular/nasal discharges, blood, underweight, old scars,

labored breathing, shaking head, heat stroke, collars and chains embedded in the neck, dangerous dog tags, and abnormal conditions in puppies and kittens)

- relevant sections of the California Penal Code and San Diego County code regarding cruelty to animals, fighting animals, willful poisoning, harboring animals with injuries, abandonment, illegal confinement, and sanitation

The reporting form to be faxed to Animal Control includes:

- report date
- name, title, address, and phone of the reporting party
- name and address of animal's owner or custodian
- location, number, type, and descriptions of animals
- date and time of observation or incident
- a checklist of animal's condition including: abandoned, bleeding, coughing/breathing problem, hair loss/skin problem, injured/disabled, sick, underweight, and other
- a checklist of animal's premises including: inadequate shelter or access to shelter, inadequate water or access to water, entangled, unsanitary food or water, unsanitary or hazardous conditions, and other
- additional information or statement

The San Diego agreement follows California's historic program in which all animal control officers, statewide, are now mandated to report suspected child abuse to their local child protective services. The San Diego program is believed to be the first case of a reverse reporting system and it is hoped other agencies will follow suit.

For information, contact: Hector Cazares, Director, San Diego Co. Animal Control, (619) 236-4250.



Health, and the state legislature's willingness to support the expansion of a program without sacrificing quality. For as author Lisbeth Schorr (1987) reminds us: The temptation to water down a proven model in order to distribute services more widely is ever present. A agonizingly familiar is the story of a successful program which is continued or replicated in a form so diluted that the original concept is destroyed . . . Especially when funds are scarce, there are powerful pressures to dissect a successful program and select some one part to be continued in isolation, losing sight of the fact that it was the sum of the parts that accounted for the demonstrated success

In this article, we hope to describe the critical elements of the Healthy Start program and also to examine the processes of collaboration and advocacy that have made high quality expansion possible.

(Editor's note: For space considerations we will continue the Expansion section of this article in the next Latham Letter.)

The Healthy Start Model

The Healthy Start approach is designed to improve family coping skills and functioning, promote positive parenting skills and parent-child interaction, promote optimal child development, and, as a result, prevent child abuse and neglect. Nine complementary features make up the Healthy Start approach:

1. Systematic hospital-based screening to identify 90 percent of high risk families of newborns from a specific geographic area.

Paraprofessional "early identification" workers review hospital admissions data for childbirths to determine which families live in the target area and are therefore eligible for services. Using a list of risk indicators developed by the Hawaii Family Stress Center (see figure 1), the early identification workers

analyze the records of eligible mothers. If a screened record is positive, the mother is interviewed by a worker who has been intensively trained in basic interview techniques and in use of the Family Stress Checklist developed by the E. Henry Kempe Center and validated by Murphy and Orkow in 1985 (Kempe, 1976; Orkow, B., Murphy, S. and Nicola, R., 1985). Families determined to be at risk are encouraged to accept home visiting services; these are described to the families as home visiting, supportive services to assist with problems discussed during the interview and to share information about the baby's care and development. During the three-year demonstration period, 95 percent of families accepted the offer of services.

Systematic identification of at risk families is key to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The initial Healthy Start demonstration



project set up the procedures for screening and risk assessment described above at four major medical centers that served the target population. A quality control review conducted in the third year of the project revealed that it was successfully reaching about 75% of the geographically eligible population as defined by hospital birth records, verified by the Department of Health. Procedures were instituted at Kapiolani Medical Center, the Regional Perinatal Center where 50 percent of all births in Hawaii occur, to correct factors, such as inaccurate reporting of addresses

FIGURE 1.

Risk Indicators Used in Early Identification

1. Marital status-single, separated, divorced
2. Partner unemployed
3. Inadequate income (per patient) or no information regarding source of income
4. Unstable housing
5. No phone
6. Education under 12 years
7. Inadequate emergency contacts (e.g., no immediate family contacts)
8. History of substance abuse
9. Late (after 12 weeks) or no prenatal care
10. History of abortions
11. History of psychiatric care
12. Abortion unsuccessfully sought or attempted
13. Relinquishment for adoption sought or attempted
14. Marital or family problems
15. History of or current depression

and lapses over long holiday weekends, that led to missed cases. This process has resulted in 100 percent coverage of eligible families at this medical center. Work continues with other hospitals to establish similar procedures. The systematic identification process holds great promise for targeting prevention programs to specific geographic areas, such as districts, counties, or states, in a systematic, comprehensive manner.

2. Community-based home visiting family support services, as part of the maternal and child health system.

Once a family has accepted the offer of service, a paraprofessional family support worker contacts the mother in the hospital to establish rapport and schedule a home visit. Initial visits are usually devoted to building trust, assessing family needs, and providing help with immediate needs such as obtaining emergency food supplies, completing applications for public housing, or resolving crises in family relationships. Workers focus primarily on providing emotional support to parents and modeling effective skills in coping with everyday problems. Their "parent the parent" strategy allows initial dependence. before encouraging independence. "Do for, do with, cheer on" sums up the workers' philosophy.

Workers also model parent-child interaction. They complete the Nursing Care Assessment (NCAST) Home Feeding and Teaching Scales (Barnard, IQ83) when the infant is four months old to identify problem areas, and again at twelve months to determine progress and modify intervention strategies. Workers use the Hawaii Family Stress Center's own parent-child interaction materials (see Figure 2) as well as Mary Alger's *Mother-Baby Playbook* (1976) and activities from Setsu Furuno's *Hawaii Early Learning Profile* manual (1984).


3. Individualizing the intensity of service based on the family's need and level of risk.

A system of "client levels" and "weighted caseloads" is designed to ensure quality service for families and prevent burnout among staff. All families enter the program at "Level I" and receive weekly home visits. The decision to change a family's level is based on criteria such as frequency of family crisis, quality of parent-child interaction, and the family's ability to use other community resources. As families

Levels II and III; the average caseload would be 20 families. By the third year of a program, the average caseload would be about 25 families.

4. Linkage to a 'medical home'.

As its name suggests, the Healthy Start program emphasizes preventive health care as an important aspect of promoting positive child development. Each family is assisted in selecting a primary care provider, which might be a pediatrician, family physician, or public



FEEDING ME

When I'm hungry, I'm really hungry . . . please don't let me wait! I won't understand and I'll get upset and cry.

When you feed me, you'll want to be comfortable. I need this too. Sit in a relaxed position, with your own arm supporting me. Please look directly at my face so I can see you . . .

Gently brush my cheek and I will turn in that direction for the nipple.

become more stable, responsive to children's needs, and autonomous, the frequency of home visits diminishes. A family's promotion to Level IV means quarterly visit status, and quarterly visits continue until the target child is five years old. Thus service intensity is constantly adjusted to the needs of the family, assuring that families who are doing well move along, and those needing more support are not promoted arbitrarily.

The system of client levels assists in caseload management. In the first year of a program, all families would be Level 1, the caseload for each worker would be no more than 15 families. In the second year some families would have progressed to

health nursing clinic. Project staff use a special computer system to track both due dates for well care visits, using the child's age and the schedule of visits recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, and for NCAST visits. Each worker receives a monthly printout of the children in her families who are due for visits, and follows up to make sure that the visit is scheduled and the family has transportation. Family support workers routinely conduct RPDQ's and make referrals for follow-up Denver Developmental Screening Tests as indicated. The program's office manager or the family support worker contacts the pediatricians' offices as necessary to

HAWAII, continued on next page

obtain results of developmental screening. Case conferences involving the physician, worker, and staff of any other agencies involved with the family have been held as necessary to review cases of significant biological or environmental risk and to coordinate preventive interventions.

The Medical Home Project now operates under the auspices of the Hawaii Medical Association. The effort has gained national recognition and a second grant, to further develop the concept of the medical home and to provide technical assistance in initiating similar projects throughout the United States.

add to family stress. Learning from our earlier experience, we designed the Healthy Start program to maintain follow-up until the target child reaches age five and enters school. At that point, the educational system provides at least some link between the family and the larger community.

"The Healthy Start program has maintained over a 99% success rate in preventing abuse, among a population where studies show a 20% incidence rate of significant abuse/neglect would (otherwise) be expected."

Betsy Pratt
Program Development Specialist,
Hawaii Family Stress Center

Approximately a year after the Leeward Healthy Start project began, a Federal Maternal and Child Health SPRANS (Special Projects of Regional and National Significance) grant funded "piggyback" efforts to enhance pediatricians' involvement with project families. The SPRANS effort was designed to increase pediatricians' awareness of the 'new morbidity' and the needs of at-risk children. At the same time, the project educated families about the need for well care, in addition to episodic sick care, and helped them to use physicians' services more effectively.

5. Coordination of a range of health and social services for at risk families.

Coordination of services is a major feature of the Healthy Start program. Because high risk families generally lack trust in people and services and thus do not reach out for help, those families who need service most are the least likely to seek them. As it reaches out to and builds trust with high risk families, Healthy Start is in a position to coordinate a wide range of services to families. Healthy Start connects families to the services most commonly available in communities.

6. Continuous follow-up with the family until the child reaches age five.

An earlier service program stopped following families once they were no longer considered "high risk" in a number of these families, cases of child abuse and neglect were reported later. Family situations can deteriorate, and the birth of subsequent children can

7. A structured training program in the dynamics of abuse and neglect; early identification of families at risk; and home visiting.

A standardized training program has allowed Healthy Start to share experience with new teams and establish uniform standards of service delivery as the program expands. All training is coordinated through the Healthy Start Training and Technical Assistance (HSTA) Team.

Training is provided in three phases. In Phase 1, all new teams participate in a five-week orientation, which includes a core curriculum developed collaboratively by educators, human service providers, medical professionals, home visitors, and social service administrators. During the orientation, managers and supervisors, early identification workers, and home

State of Hawaii's Comparative Costs of the Consequences of Abuse and Neglect with the Cost of Healthy Start (1991)

Cost of Corrections:
\$180,000,000

Cost of Child Protective Services:
\$40,000,000

Cost of Healthy Start:
\$20,000,000
(The cost for Healthy Start per family per year is estimated at \$2,600.)

LATHAM IS ONLINE!

You may now contact
the Foundation at
Lathm@AOL.com.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU!



visitors receive training specific to their jobs. Trainees "shadow" experienced workers and visit community resources. The training for early identification workers typically takes three days of specialized instruction plus several weeks of closely supervised work. Four to six months after Phase I training, all staff attend a five-day advanced training session. This Phase II training reinforces key concepts and introduces additional concepts that workers would have been unlikely to absorb during the orientation.

After a team's first year of operation, it begins to participate in Phase III, or inservice training. Each team receives four half-days of inservice training per year at its own site, choosing topics from a menu of offerings distributed annually. This mechanism has been particularly useful for programs in remote areas of the state.

A fourth phase of training, "Health Start Supervisor Training," is being implemented this year, following the HSTA Training Team's participation in NCCIP's 1990-91 Training of Trainers Intensive Summer Seminar and follow-up program. This training focuses on the supervisor/home visitor relationship in its broadest sense.

Training for all phases is provided by the HSTA Team and by community consultants who have been identified as both experts in

their field and very good presenters. We have found that including consultants has increased awareness of Healthy Start among other community agencies and the University, helping to enhance overall service coordination. The HSTA Team also provides regular technical assistance through visits to all Healthy Start sites, thus assuring standardized practice and clear communication among all teams statewide.

The Healthy Start Network, comprised of managers and supervisors from each team, meets each quarter for planning and program development. This mechanism has resulted in a close network with a shared mission, rather than seven agencies working in isolation.

8. Collaboration with the Hawaii Coordinating Council for Part H of P.L. 99-457 (now P.L. 101-476) to serve environmentally at risk children.

The State of Hawaii has included children at environmental risk in its definitions of eligibility for services under Part H of P.L. 99-457 (now the IDEA, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, P.L. 101-476). Healthy Start staff testified before the legislature as to the need for including environmentally at risk infants and toddlers and for funding care coordinators and a tracking system.

Currently, Healthy Start refers children with identified developmental delays to the local Zero to Three Project (Part H) care coordinator, who arranges with child development centers for early intervention. Healthy Start and Part H staff are working collaboratively to develop a format for the Individualized Family Service Plan.

The Zero to Three project has funded a child development specialist for the Leeward project, who will work with families needing special monitoring. Legislation is being proposed to add child development specialists to other Healthy Start staffs as well.

9. Staff selection and retention.

Teams consist of 5-8 paraprofessional and supervisory staff, based on an agreed upon ratio. This ratio is 1:5 for supervisors and 1:3 for managers also carrying administrative responsibilities.

The Healthy Start approach is designed to improve family coping skills and functioning, promote positive parenting skills and parent-child interaction, promote optimal child development, and, as a result, prevent child abuse and neglect

For managers, we look for masters degree level professionals who have both clinical experience with dysfunctional families and supervisory experience, preferably with paraprofessional staff. Selecting the right staff for each role is critical to both program effectiveness and staff retention.

We find that home visiting and early identification offer different job satisfactions, and applicants can

HAWAII, continued on next page

usually tell which position would be more suited to them. EID workers like the sense of a task Completed, while home visitors gain satisfaction from ongoing projects. In our interviews, we often use a sewing example: Some people like to sit down and finish a project, and hate to have it go over into another day. Others like to make quilts, a long-term, slow project. Home visitors are the quilt makers.

We look for similar personal qualities in both home visitors and EID workers—empathy, compassion, inner strength, high self-esteem, nonjudgmental attitudes, and status in their neighborhood or family as a natural helper. We have found that people who have experienced abuse themselves burn out more quickly than those who have had more nurturing childhoods; we ask prospective workers the same questions about their childhood experiences that new parents are asked during the EID interview.

Having hired good staff, we work to keep them. Staff members have identified several aspects of the program that are meaningful incentives to stay:

- Flexible hours (within reason), including time for family obligations like school conferences;
- An atmosphere of trust and caring through all levels of management;
- Tuition reimbursement for relevant continuing education;
- Emphasis on the significance of the project and the staff's contribution (including prompt feedback about all

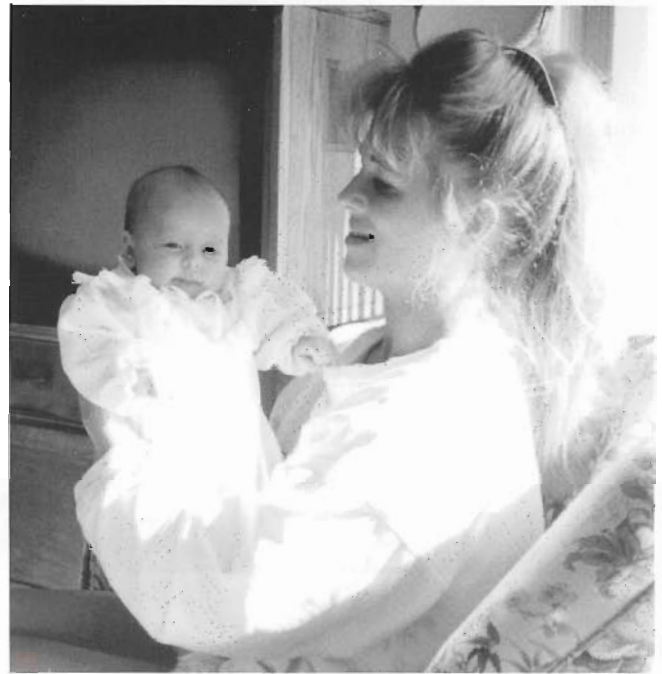
evaluation outcomes, linking these to outstanding staff performance);

- A system of salary increases that gives paraprofessional staff opportunity for advancement; regular raises are linked to demonstrated competence, experience, education and leadership qualities.

Evaluation of Healthy Start

We have a word of advice for anyone who hopes eventually to expand a model program: Invest in evaluation. Although the temptation to skimp on process and outcome evaluation in order to provide more direct services is ever-present, our advocacy efforts would have been useless without impeccable evaluation data. Our evaluation provided the foundation for our advocacy. A good program, a strong evaluation, and collaborative advocacy were all essential in expansion toward a statewide system.

The Healthy Start demonstration project provided family support services to 241 high risk families. Of these, 170 had received services for at least one year at the time of outcome assessment at the end of the three-year demonstration. The outcome data reflected dramatic



success in reaching our goal of identifying families at risk for abuse and neglect, and in preventing abuse and neglect in those families. A study of Child Protective Services (CPS) reports of confirmed abuse and neglect reports revealed:

- No cases of abuse of target children among project families;
- Only four cases of neglect (involving two percent of families) during the three year project, all reported by project staff to CPS;
- No abuse for 99.5% of all families identified by the initial hospital screening as not at risk.

Project staff identified a total of five infants as falling within the "imminent harm" category during hospital intake or later during service. Following Family Court Act provisions, staff referred the families to Child Protective Services; all families were followed by the project.

Although clinical outcomes were not assessed with sufficiently stringent procedures to serve as indices of the project's effectiveness, there are indications of positive outcomes. Early Identification Workers who conducted initial risk assessments completed a second interview with families upon their graduation to Level IV. (Since these

Healthy Start is called HEALTHY FAMILIES AMERICA on the mainland.

For further information, contact
Leslie Mitchel-Bond, Director, Healthy Families America National
Office, 312-663-3520 or
Linda Smith at the California Consortium
to Prevent Child Abuse, 916-648-8010.

workers were not the families' home visitors, their assessments are less likely to be influenced by a close relationship.) Once "non-changeable" risk factors, such as parents' experiences of abuse in childhood or a history of CPS involvement, were eliminated from the analysis of pre and post scores, 88 percent of the 42 clients who were promoted to Level IV in the three years of the program showed a reduction of 40 to 100 percent in their risk scores. The families who were promoted to Level IV also showed improvement on the NCAF and HOME scales, thus confirming the home visitors' judgments of their improved functioning.

In 1988 Craig Ramey and Donna Bryant of the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center conducted an on-site evaluation of the overall program, contextual features, and process variables. They gave the project high marks in administrative organization, training and management of direct service staff, and quantity and quality of service delivery. They found "more esprit de corps among this group of home visitors than among any we have ever encountered, (with) no turnover." Ramey and Bryant described Healthy Start as a good example of cost-efficient public-private partnership developed and administered by the private sector under purchase of service agreements with the state Maternal and Child Health Branch.

Data have just been analyzed for 1,204 at-risk families enrolled in expanded services state-wide during FY 1987-89. There was only one case

of abuse (a 99.99% non-abuse rate), and six cases of neglect (a 99.95 non neglect rate). In addition, there was no abuse or neglect among fourteen drug-exposed infants and six cases identified as "imminent harm" situations which were reported by the programs to protective services. These results are extremely exciting, as they prove the viability of effective replication of this program.

(This article will be continued in the next Latham Letter.)

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JF

Seen on a bumper sticker and reported in the WHEEA (Western Humane and Environmental Educators' Association) *Packrat*:

**A MIND IS LIKE A PARACHUTE;
THEY BOTH WORK BEST WHEN OPEN.**



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COMING IN THE NEXT LATHAM LETTER:



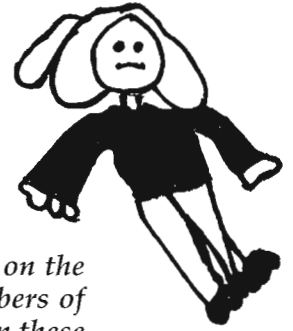
PHOTO: ROBERT C. LITTLEJOHN

Humane Education:
 The Ultima Thule of Global Education

by David Selby,
 courtesy of *Green Teacher,*
 Toronto.

Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Conference Summaries

Phil Arkow



Editor's Note: *This past Spring saw several communities host historic conferences on the connections between cruelty to animals, child abuse, and domestic violence. Members of Latham's Child & Animal Abuse Prevention Project were fortunate to be involved in these programs that have already spawned numerous local interagency partnerships and which will, no doubt, generate other such conferences and connections in the future. Brief summaries of these meetings follow here in the hope that their successes will inspire our readers to consider organizing similar efforts in their communities. Detailed reports, print-ready, are available from Latham and Phil Arkow. Please feel free to contact any of the conference organizers, Latham, or Phil Arkow (Chair of Latham's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Project) at 609-627-5118 for specific program and format ideas so we may help you initiate such a movement in your area.*

Unprecedented Partnership Links Michigan Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Groups

TROY, Mich. - Earth Day 1995 seemed an extremely appropriate occasion to launch an unprecedented partnership between child and animal protection agencies and to hold the world premiere of Latham's new training video and guide, *Breaking the Cycles of Violence*. By all accounts, the event was immensely successful.

More than 150 professionals from a variety of social agencies attended a day-long symposium at Michigan State University, *Protect Our Future: Stop the Cycle of Child & Animal Abuse*, sponsored by the Michigan Humane Society and Orchards Children's Services. The conference, which attracted attendees from as far away as Georgia, Minnesota, Indiana, and Ohio seeking to initiate similar collaborations in their communities, had three goals: **1.** To share information and facts regarding children, adults, and animals as victims of abuse and neglect, **2.** To facilitate change in the way in which communities view violent behavior, and **3.** To create a planned community response to violent behavior.

Participants discussed Michigan's new law which, as of April 1, 1995, extends the definition of felony-level cruelty to animals to include the willful harming of one's own animals. Previously, it was a felony only to willfully harm someone else's animal. The

new law enables perpetrators to get mental health intervention and can force them to relinquish their animals and to pay the costs of foster care. It also makes cruelty to animals punishable by up to four years imprisonment.

Some children who are exposed to wide-ranging violence mirror it by committing acts of cruelty against animals, while other children exposed to the same violence seek solace in their pets and become even kinder to animals.

Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D.

The Michigan Humane Society and Orchards Children's Services, who co-sponsored the historic event and who are featured in Latham's new video *Breaking the Cycles of Violence*, are seeking funding to establish a full-service community institute which will explore and develop further collaborations regarding the linkages between child and animal abuse. The conference succeeded in getting educators, counselors, ministers, veterinarians, prosecutors, mental health specialists, attorneys and therapists to join with child and animal protection personnel in a concerted community collaboration.

Wisconsin Group Sees Efforts Grow

La Crosse, Wisconsin — In 1994, the Community Coalition Against Violence was formed with an inaugural conference, "The Tangled Web: Animal Cruelty & Family Violence." Propelled by the initial success, a 2nd annual meeting was held in May '95 to review progress and set future directions. Much progress has been made. For information, contact: Ishamon Harris 414-929-9392, or Kaye Crampton 507-643-6982.



According to Dr. Henry Giarretto, a nationally-recognized expert in treating children victims of sexual abuse, children who have been abused are frequently racked with fear and guilt, and perpetrators feel their punishment is deserved.

Hope Emerges from Tangled Webs of Violence

Providence, R.I. — Many of the workshops being held around the country to sensitize professionals to the linkages between animal abuse and other forms of family violence present a depressing array of statistics and incidents pointing to the increasing rates of violence besieging our communities. The Rhode Island meeting, first of its kind to tackle the subject on a statewide level, also presented a different approach by focusing optimistically on individual, successful interventions which are changing lives.

“From the Tangled Threads of Violence Weave a Silver Web of Hope” was the title and theme of this unique event, which drew 75 social workers, therapists, PTA leaders, parents, juvenile correction officers, and children’s advocates on Friday, May 19. Unlike other conferences, this group largely favored the human services sector, although several humane educators, animal-assisted therapists, and veterinarians were also present. The conference also, heavily featured children, with performances by two youth choirs and with presentations of children’s essays, art projects, and poetry about ending violence.

The meeting also laid the groundwork for a long-term task force for violence prevention throughout the state. On Saturday, a nucleus re-grouped at an area library to begin planning a statewide symposium for 1996, to inaugurate a series of monthly networking breakfast meetings, and to compile a list of individuals willing to provide foster care for pets belonging to women who need respite in domestic violence safe houses. This group also identified barriers to interagency communication and compiled resources which area agencies will contribute to the coalition effort.

Anne Grant, executive director of the Women’s Center of Rhode Island, in discussing the links of animal abuse to domestic violence, noted that the single greatest health crisis facing women today is men’s attitudes toward them. She also cited a societal ambivalence towards women: traditionally, women are nurturers and are expected to care for children and animals. When children and animals are abused, society assumes women have failed in their responsibilities.

She listed four ways in which agencies can work together:

- **cross-disciplinary information.** Women’s shelters should ask questions about animals in the home when women come in. Veterinarians should display domestic violence posters in their clinics to send a signal that it’s okay to talk about the subject there, in a safe place.
- **animal shelters can provide short-term foster care for battered women’s pets.** Often, women refuse to seek refuge because there is no one to care for their animals.
- **animal-assisted therapy programs in battered women’s shelters.**
- **providing guard dogs for women who are being stalked, as long as the animal is not endangered.**

She also suggested animal protection workers should refrain from using the word “bitch” for a female dog, as the word has powerful derogatory connotations and is the word most commonly used by batterers.

Stephen Buka, Sc.D., of the Harvard University School of Public Health, presented preliminary data on the multi-factorial pathways which lead children into violent behaviors. Some anti-social, limit-testing behavior is normal for all teens, especially boys, but most grow out of it, he said: his research on drug-dependent adolescents with histories of conduct disorder is studying those who do not.

The group’s long-term goal is to reduce the level of violence in Rhode Island, and the historic conference made progress in discussing the issue and developing strategies for a nonviolent future.

Phil Arkow can be reached at 37 Hillside Road, Stratford, NJ 08084. Telephone 609-627-5118; Fax 609-627-2252.

Humane Education Conference Inspires West Virginia Teachers

Glen Dale, West Virginia — The movement to acquaint professionals with the connections between cruelty to animals and other forms of family violence took an exciting new direction recently when 70 West

SUMMARIES, continued on page 18

Latham Letter Back Issues Available

The following back issues, containing articles on the links between child and animal abuse, are available from the Foundation for \$2.50 each plus \$3.00 1st Class Postage and Handling for up to 10 issues (US and Canada). Foreign orders please add \$10.00. California residents please add 8.25% sales tax. Latham accepts MasterCard and VISA.

- Winter 95 Animal Cruelty & the Link to Other Violent Crimes
- Winter 95 Tacoma, Washington's Humane Coalition Perseveres in the Fight Against Family and Community Violence
- Spring 95 USC Conference Addresses Violence Against Children
- Spring 95 Working to Break the Cycle of Violence
- Spring 95 The Tangled Web: Animal Cruelty and Family Violence (Wisconsin Coalition Moves Forward)
- Winter 93-94 Milwaukee Humane Society's 'PAL' Program: At-Risk Kids Learn Respect through Dog Obedience Training
- Spring 94 Latham Confronts Child and Animal Abuse
- Spring 94 A Humane Garden of Children, Plants, and Animals Grows in Sonoma County
- Spring 94 Education and Violence: Where Are We Going? A Guest Editorial
- Spring 94 Bedwetting, Fire Setting, and Animal Cruelty as Indicators of Violent Behavior
- Spring 94 Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence: Intake Statistics Tell a Sad Story
- Summer 94 The Veterinarian's Role in the Prevention of Violence
- Summer 94 Results of Latham's National Survey on Child and Animal Abuse
- Summer 94 Israel Conference Puts the Link Between Animal and Child Abuse on the Public Agenda
- Summer 94 Wisconsin Coalition Organizes Anti-Abuse Conference
- Summer 94 A Shared Cry: Animal and Child Abuse Connections
- Winter 92-93 A Report on Latham's October 1992 Conference on Child and Animal Abuse
- Winter 92-93 Child Abuse Reporting Hotline Falls Short
- Spring 92-93 I Befriended a Child Molester
- Summer 93 A Test for Determining Why Children are Cruel to Animals
- Fall 93 Animal Advocates Looking Out for Children
(A description of the Toledo Humane Society's child and animal abuse prevention program)
- Summer 92 Correlations Drawn Between Child and Animal Victims of Violence
- Summer 92 Upsetting Comparisons (between child and animal cruelty investigations)
- Summer 92 Watching Ralph Smile (An animal welfare professional's reminiscence)
- Summer 92 The Shape of Cruelty (A child protection professional's perspective)
- Summer 92 Link Between Animal Cruelty and Child Abuse Described
- Summer 92 Putting the Abuse of Animals and Children in Historical Perspective
- Winter 89-90 The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Fall 89 Dangerous Dogs: A Symptom of Dangerous People
- Summer 87 Working Toward Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Summer 87 An Overview of Children's Protective Services
- Summer 87 Pets and Latchkey Children
- Summer 87 Animal Abuse Ties to Crime
- Summer 87 Cruelty: Where Do We Draw the Line?



Abuse an Animal - Go to Jail!

Animal Legal Defense Fund Fights Cruelty to Animals

Laura Wilensky

In 1994, the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) introduced a campaign to combat animal cruelty and encourage the aggressive prosecution of animal abuse cases throughout the U.S. The program - "Zero Tolerance for Cruelty" - marks the first time a national organization of lawyers has pledged its services free of charge to assist local district attorneys who are handling animal cruelty cases. The program is proving very successful. ALDF receives numerous calls daily from prosecutors around the country seeking legal assistance, as well as people requesting guidance regarding animal abuse in their communities.

Under the program, as soon as ALDF learns about an instance of animal cruelty, we contact the prosecutor who is handling the case to offer free legal help. ALDF attorney members will then provide whatever assistance is required, from legal research to the drafting of friend of the court briefs in support of the prosecution, to locating expert witnesses, such as veterinarians.

"The program has met with overwhelming enthusiasm by local prosecutors," stated Joyce Tischler, Executive Director of ALDF. "Because District Attorney offices are usually understaffed and underfunded, animal cruelty is a somewhat neglected area. Prosecutors are excited to have a resource to turn to for assistance as public pressure regarding the welfare of animals increases."

In addition, ALDF works with grassroots activists who are working at a local level to strengthen their state's anti-cruelty laws and to ensure the effective prosecution of these cases when they occur. A case

in point is the "Pasado" law, the recently amended Washington state anti-cruelty law which was strengthened to provide stiffer penalties and make animal abuse a felony. ALDF's President, Steve Ann Chambers, helped draft the law, named for a donkey, Pasado, whose brutal torture and death became a rallying point for many people to help change the law.

We are pleased to report that in one of the first convictions under the revised law, a man was sentenced to five years in prison for intimidating a witness and cruelty to animals after he burned a kitten in an oven.

District Attorney Training Seminar Launched in Washington

On April 26, 1995, ALDF held its first training seminar for the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys to educate them that animal abuse is a serious crime, and to stress the importance of aggressive enforcement of state anti-cruelty laws.

Dr. Frank Ascione, the noted psychologist from Utah State University, (and advisor ... contributor to Latham Letter), gave an informative presentation on childhood cruelty to animals as a potential indicator of later violent tendencies directed towards humans. "Several studies clearly demonstrate the association between animal cruelty and human violence," stated



One of the dogs taken from the Kittle's bus.

PHOTO: PAT FOGERY

Ascione. "It has been found that cruelty to animals, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect and community violence are all related, and cruelty to animals in childhood is probably more common than we imagined." By arguing these links, we hope to motivate prosecutors and judges to view animal cruelty as a warning sign, and treat the trial and sentencing of these defendants more seriously. The seminar was a positive step in bringing to District Attorneys this kind of valuable information. While many were not yet familiar with the issue, it offered them an insight they had not previously had. ALDF intends to host seminars for prosecutors and judges in other states to bring this issue to the forefront.

ALDF to Offer Database on Animal Cruelty

Another exciting resource that ALDF will be offering soon is a computerized database that will serve as a "Citizens Clearinghouse for Animal Cruelty." It will help prosecutors, judges, state humane officers and animal control officers to have a centralized source for information about cruelty cases, to track how a

JAIL, continued on next page

particular trial level case was handled, and provide research memos, briefs, sentencing options, jury instructions, etc. The database will include information about specific cruelty cases, decisions, sentencing, prosecutors, expert witnesses, model state anti-cruelty legislation, titles and cites for articles on animal abuse/child abuse and violence to animals/humans.

Recent Victories

The following cases show a trend in both public consciousness and the legal system toward treating animal abusers more harshly:

People v. Kittles - Notorious animal collector Vicki Kittles, was convicted of animal neglect in the state of Oregon. Kittles had a long history of run-ins with law enforcement.

In April 1993, Kittles was charged with cruelty to animals, after Clatsop County, OR Animal Control officers found 115 dogs, four cats and two chickens living in a dilapidated school bus. The dogs were suffering from malnutrition, dehydration, skin disease, heart worm, and several were found dead. The animals were living in their own excrement, and had not been given food or water for days. For over a year and a half, Kittles tied the legal system in knots. She caused countless delays by filing numerous motions, fired seven court appointed public defenders, and successfully demanded the removal of five judges. The case was a fiasco until Joshua Marquis, the Clatsop County District Attorney, stepped in and began to vigorously prosecute it. An ALDF attorney was actively involved throughout the prosecution.

After a five week trial, Kittles was convicted of 42 counts of animal neglect. She was sentenced to seven months in jail, five years probation, and ordered to undergo psychiatric treatment. While several of the dogs had to be euthanized due to illness, most of the surviving dogs were

placed in loving foster homes.

On March 20, 1995, ALDF honored Josh Marquis for his successful prosecution of Vicki Kittles, and presented him with "The Jolene Marion Aggressive Enforcement Award," which was established to honor prosecutors who handle cruelty cases in an outstanding manner. Despite the overwhelming difficulties in this case, Marquis was tenacious and unwavering.

Duke the Dalmatian - Three men were convicted of animal fighting, a felony, for the torture and killing of Duke the Dalmatian. They tied Duke to a tree, set a pitbull upon him, cut his ears and tail off, slit his throat and crushed his head with cinder blocks. 50,000 people signed petitions and 600 showed up at the courthouse to protest the brutal murder. Judge Edward G. Blester said, "Great cruelty for some disturbed person's pleasure is an awful thing. It sends a chill of disgust through the community." The men were sentenced to prison time ranging from 6 months to 3 years.

People v. Osterholt - Seafood supplier, Mark Osterholt was convicted of animal cruelty after more than 700 dead and dying turtles were discovered in his possession. Many of the turtles died from dehydration, crushed shells or open wounds, and were infested with maggots. Osterholt was sentenced to 60 days in jail and 30 days on a work crew, as well as ordered to pay restitution to the court for veterinary care for the surviving turtles. The case was handled by Los Angeles Deputy City Attorney, Don Cocek, who regularly handles cruelty cases for his office. ALDF supplied him with specific information and connections to important experts in this field.

The timing is ripe for ALDF to launch this campaign. It parallels the public outcry surrounding animal cruelty that has been rising over the past few years. The publicity surrounding these cases sends a

strong message that the crime of animal abuse will not be tolerated.

As police, prosecutors and judges begin to understand that their enforcement of anti-cruelty laws is being monitored by the public, we will see more active and effective prosecutions. And as more cruelty cases are aggressively prosecuted and more animal abusers go to jail and pay steep fines, previously defenseless animals will finally be brought under the protection of the law.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP COMBAT CRUELTY

Contact your prosecutor whenever you hear of an animal cruelty incident in your area and ask that office to vigorously prosecute the offenders. You should also inform ALDF, so it can offer free legal assistance and resource materials.

Prosecutors are elected officials and are sensitive to public opinion. Letter writing, making cruelty a campaign issue at election time, and media coverage of high-profile cruelty cases have proven successful in persuading prosecutors to make animal cases a higher priority.

Write for ALDF's free "Zero Tolerance for Cruelty" packet containing informative articles and model anti-cruelty legislation. It can be obtained from ALDF at 1363 Lincoln Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94901 or call (415) 459-0885 for more information.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) is a national nonprofit network of over 650 attorneys and law students, dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of animals. ALDF's goal is to ensure that the interests and needs of all animals are recognized and respected within the U.S. legal system.

Laura Wilensky is staff writer for ALDF's "Animals' Advocate" newsletter.



Rhode Island Conference Weaves a Silver Web of Hope from the Tangled Threads of Violence

Pearl Salotto

Who would ever think that a 2000 pound animal named Bumper — a friend to children and rescued by children, a beloved pet of Dr. Dick Dillman — would help “steer” at-risk fifth graders onto a path as college honor students?

Who would ever think that youngsters from both Arab and Jewish backgrounds who had come together at the SPCA in Israel to care for, respect, and love the animals, would relate to, listen to, cooperate with and respect each other as well?

Who would ever think that a rabbit named Tulip would “touch” people — would soften people — helping to change the mood from tragedy and pain to hope and possibilities as one hundred people from all walks of life came together in Providence, Rhode Island on May 19, 1995 to begin the task of reducing violence in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and serving as a national model.

Who would ever think that a dog named D. J., standing proudly on stage next to her beloved friends of the D. J. Song Group, could bring tears to the eyes of men and women alike, as they recognized the awesome power and possibilities of the Human Companion Animal Bond at work.

Nina Natelson, one of the honored guest speakers at the conference and founding director of Concern for Helping Animals in Israel (CHAI), has stated many times over the last decade that anyone interested in reducing violence against children needs to be concerned about violence against animals. (See the Spring '94 Latham Letter for an article on CHAI's traveling photography exhibit.)

And thus, the two sides of the coin were the theme of this unique



The D. J. Song Group: Georgette Archambault, Fredricka Giordano, Sabrina Archambault, April Bixton, Nathan Arruda, Alan Andrade, Lori Salotto, Jasmine Conine, Nicole LaMoore, Stacey Lantotto, Achley Lancot, Stacey Barrie, Gina Thibeault, Lilia Guilbault, Kelly Smith, Larona LaMoore, Ross Salotto, Ashley Jensen, Krish Bailey, Alexandra Giordano, Bryon Archambault, Lucinda Giordano, D.J.

and historic statewide initiative, where information on the links between abuse of animals, women, and children, as well as Pet Assisted Therapy have touched off a grassroots movement across two states that will hopefully lead to a more peaceful and respectful world.

Touching on the fact that domestic violence is frequently not only against women but against children and pets as well, Anne Grant of the Women's Center of Rhode Island, heart-wrenchingly stated, “We have had women refuse to leave their batterers because they had no one to care for their pets. One shelter resident was severely beaten and hospitalized because she returned home to feed her cat. We are grateful to people at this conference who have offered to help us with this problem by boarding pets whose owners must come to our shelter.” Anne continued, “One of our counselors is bringing in her dog to the Women's Center for pet therapy with severely traumatized women. We see many other opportunities to improve our services through our new association with pet therapy and those attuned to respect for all living things.”

Joan Weer of Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine

Center for Animals and Public Policy and Maria Baxter, Director of the Lincoln Library in Lincoln, Rhode Island, organized the conference along with Pearl Salotto, Anne Grant, and Pam Hagen. Pam Hagen is Educational Director of the Alternatives Program at the North America Family Institute.

Joan Weer discussed themes of cross-reporting and new and unique programming as she stated how the Tufts Center has long been interested in the relationship between man and animals. She continued, “Veterinarians are just one of the professions that should be involved in training in cross-reporting.” She explained that the tragic link of violence to animals and violence to humans will be one of the discussion topics in Tufts' new and unique graduate degree program — a Masters of Science in Animals and Public Policy.

Maria Baxter has offered her services to help the violence prevention initiative by establishing a clearinghouse for information on violence prevention and on the link, “. . . so that we can better work together toward finding solutions and providing access to research

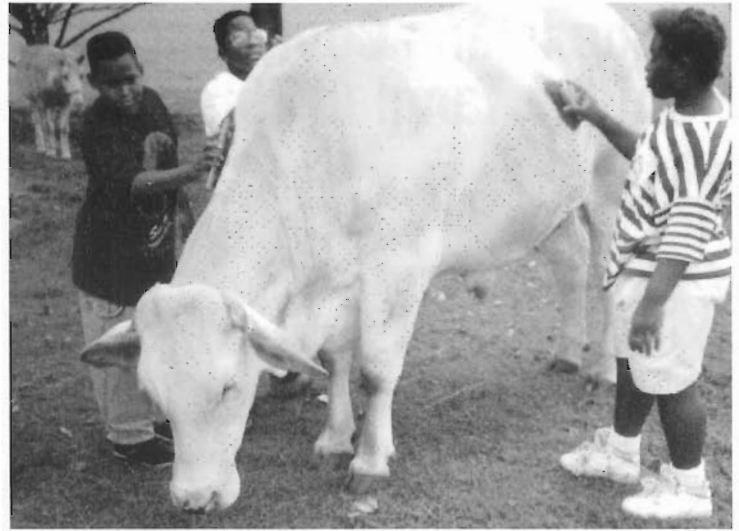
RHODE ISLAND, continued on next page

and educational materials and communication on-line."

So it appears that we may begin to be able to answer individually and collectively Nina Natelson's impassioned questions, which electrified the room, "Can we continue to catch wild animals in traps armed with jagged steel jaws that penetrate to the bone, traps in which they may lie in the cold and wet for days before they die, so that we can skin them, don their fur, and think we look chic? Can we continue to use cosmetics and household products made of caustic substances that have burned the eyes of rabbits to the point of blindness while their heads are held immobile in stocks to color our eyelids with just the right shade? Can we ignore the hopelessness and despair felt by poor inner-city teenagers who see no way out, as long as we're happy and safe where we live, and not expect those teenagers to turn to drugs and crime that ultimately reaches out a hand to engulf us along with them? Can we continue to allow children to take the wings off flies, stomp on ants, and when they get older, dissect cats and

frogs in school and feed mice candy bars until they sicken and die, so the children can compete for the number one prize in their local science fair?"

Pam Hagen feels that "this conference was the first silver thread in the creation of our Web of Hope. It was remarkable to see how hearts were touched, eyes opened, and lives changed by this first step toward organizing an initiative. Many caring and creative individuals of diverse disciplines — from children and firechiefs, parents and teachers, pet assisted therapists, child advocates and social workers, musicians, poets and anthropologists, to representatives of our state governments are beginning to communicate and work together to make a difference as a result of this meaningful and unforgettable day.



"Bumper" the steer.

For further information, contact:
Pearl Salotto, 173 Easton Avenue,
Warwick, RI, 02888, 401-463-5809;
Nina Natelson, Director, (CHAI)
Concern for Helping Animals in
Israel, P.O. Box 3341, Alexandria,
VA 22302 703-658-9650, Anne
Grant c/o Overcoming Abuse,
Box 3300, Providence, R.I.
02906-0300.



SEE PAGE 14 FOR A LIST OF
ARTICLES ON THE LINKS BETWEEN
CHILD AND ANIMAL ABUSE
AVAILABLE FROM LATHAM.

SUMMARIES, continued from page 13

Virginia educators heard a week long series of programs on the subject.

The classes were part of a 40-hour in-service education program for teachers organized by the Marshall County Animal Rescue League. National speakers were brought in to define humane education and provide participants with strategies to incorporate humane education into their classes and curricula.

The program also brought local judges, law enforcement and probation officials, and prosecutors to begin discussion on a community coalition against violence.

For information on organizing a similar continuing education pro-

gram for teachers in your area, contact Barbara Scanlon, President, Marshall County ARL, RD 1, Box 43, Moundsville, WV 26041. 304-845-9396.

New Jersey Symposium Seeks to Rescue Children and Animals

Somerset, New Jersey — Some 200 animal care and control officials and human services workers heard a series of presentations in April describing the linkages between animal cruelty and child abuse, with ideas on how to implement inter-agency partnerships in their com-

munities. The symposium, "Animals and Children: Rescuing Both From Abuse," was sponsored by Alpha Affiliates, a non-profit organization that focuses on education and scientific inquiry involving human-animal interactions. The conference was the formation of an Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey, an historic effort to unify the state's animal shelters in a coordinated network of legislative advocacy, educational outreach, and interagency communications.

For information, contact Alpha Affiliates, 103 Washington St., #362, Morristown, NJ 07960. 201-539-2770.



THE CHARACTER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

The Character Education Partnership is a nonpartisan coalition of organizations and individuals who are concerned about the moral crisis confronting America's youth and dedicated to developing moral character and civic virtue in our young people as one way of promoting a more compassionate and responsible society. Membership in CEP is open to organizations, corporations and individuals who share a commitment to developing moral character and civic virtue in youth. For further information contact CEP at 1250 North Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone (703) 739-9515; Fax (703) 739-4967.

THE ARGUS CENTER FOR THE HUMAN ANIMAL BOND IS NOW A REALITY.



ARGUS CENTER
FOR THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND

Colorado State University has created the Argus Center to put the power of the human-animal bond into action. The agenda for the Argus Center is far-reaching and spans research, education, training, and service to the community. Service programs are currently the most well-developed components. For further information, contact the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at Colorado State University, 300 West Drake, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1620. Telephone 970-491-2993.

PROJECT SAFE RUN

Just when you think you've heard everything, here is another doggone good idea found in the May/June issue of Walking Magazine.

According to Ann E. Boehler, those of you who live in the Pacific Northwest can borrow a dog for unlimited walks and runs for \$25.00 a month from the Working Dog Foundation's Project Safe Run.

Shelley Reeher founded Project Safe Run in 1981 after being assaulted during the day. For safety, Reeher got a dog to walk with her. Soon Reeher's friends began clamoring to take her dog along on walks and runs.

The foundation's purpose is twofold: to make people feel safer and to get people to stick to an exercise program. "The dogs are great motivators," says Reeher. Nancy Maniago, a resident of Eugene, Oregon, where the foundation is based, lost 25 pounds during a year of walking daily with a dog from Reeher's program. "I used to hate walking, but I agreed to exercise the dog every day, and now I can't miss even a day," says Maniago.

All of the dogs complete several months of defense-only training. "They are taught to respond to aggression with an equal level of aggression," says Reeher. The dogs would have been put to sleep otherwise, "so we're not only helping people, we're also helping the dogs-giving them careers, so to speak."

The result of the pooch program so far? More than 30,000 outings and no assaults or accidental bitings. For more information or details on starting a dog companion project, contact: Project Safe Run, c/o Working Dog Foundation, P.O. Box 22234, Eugene, OR 97402; (503) 345-8086.



A LESSON IN LIFE ...

I asked the Master how one could find the greatest satisfaction in life. He thought for some moments and then said gently, "By disciplining one's self and learning to live divinely in small as well as great things." I asked Him if He thought it possible to live divinely in a world so filled with hatred and violence. He nodded vigorously - He had no doubt about it!

I asked if He would tell me some of the qualities considered requisite for living "the superior life." Listen to them: Love, contentment, unselfishness, appreciation, loyalty, sincerity, devotion, enthusiasm, joy, simplicity, frugality, gratitude, self control, faith, kindness, the capacity for small enjoyments, serenity, honesty, poise, genuineness, courage, sympathy, tolerance, understanding, good manners, strong observations, strength with gentleness, unselfish attitudes, dignity, freedom from evil purposes, and the ability to be interested in people and things for their sakes and not for personal return.

"Suppose one had all these qualities," I said, "And suppose he lived them so silently, modestly, but radiantly, that men, women and children were happier and better for having known him. What would you call one like that?"

He smiled and answered. "Most people call him dog."

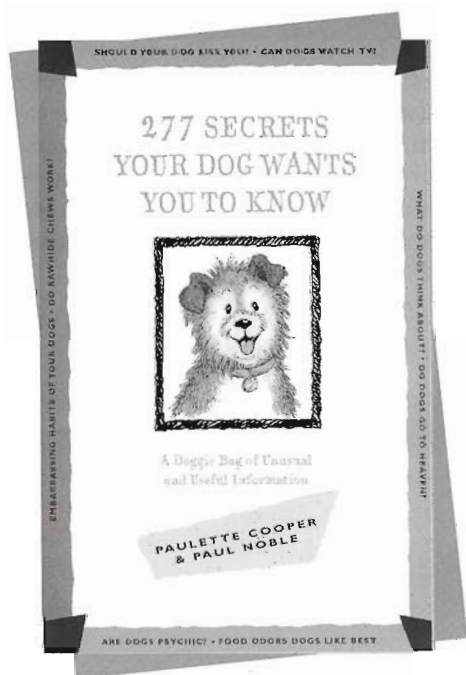
- Anonymous

Reprinted courtesy of the summer 1995 issue of laJoie, available from laJoie and Company, P.O. Box 145, Batesville, VA 22924.



MEDIA REVIEWS

277 Secrets Your Dog Wants You to Know: A Doggie Bag of Unusual and Useful Information



Pssst! Ten Speed Press is proud to be the first to reveal the 277 secrets dogs have been hiding behind their wagging tails, mischievous grins, and strange postures. This is not a dry training manual, it is a petpourri of information so owners and canine-ophiles can communicate better and teach their dogs simple ways to behave. If Dear Abby, Heloise and Liz Smith were blended and reincarnated as dogs, this is what they'd tell you- including tips on how your dogs can live healthier ("9 People Foods Never To Feed Your Dog") and happier ("23 Spots Your Dog Loves To Have Scratched, Ticked, Touched, Petted, Rubbed or Massaged").

277 Secrets Your Dog Wants You to Know: A Doggie Bag of Unusual and Useful Information by Paulette Cooper and Paul Noble is based on more than 50 interviews with dog experts and hundreds of written sources. It includes interviews with

major pet experts such as Cleveland Amory, Roger Caras, Brian Kilcommons, Captain Haggerty, Warren Eckstein, and many others.

In its stream of insider's insight, no question is too frank - "Are my female dogs coming on to my husband?" or too criminal- "Why are champion pedigree dogs being murdered?" or too enterprising- "Which publications will print photos of my dog?"

Chapters and "Sidebars" cover a wide range from the:

- Whimsical ("Should Your Dog Kiss You? Embarrassing Habits of Your Dog You've Been Ashamed To Ask Anyone About")
- Lifesaving ("90 Little Known Hazards That Could Harm Your Dog", "How To Save You Dog with the Heimlich Maneuver")
- Topical ("The OJ Simpson Case: What the Akita Knows")
- Scientific ("60 Diseases You Can Catch From Your Dog-and 6 You Can Give To Him," "Do Dogs Cause Multiple Sclerosis?")
- Spiritual ("Do Dogs Go To Heaven?" "Are Dogs Psychic?") Scandalous ("Do Dogs Get VD?")
- Practical ("19 Products That Can Save A Dog's Life")
- Fun ("How To Teach Your Dog to Sing - and then How To Get 'Em To Shut Up", "15 Unusual Gifts You Can Buy Your Dog")
- Money Saving ("Do Rawhide Chews Work?" "How To Save Money on Dog Food")
- Contemporary ("Does Your Dog Need Prozac?")

Paulette Cooper, an award-winning author and dog enthusiast who lives in New York, has written nine books including *The Scandal of Scientology* (Tower) and *REWARD* (Simon and Schuster). She has appeared on numerous television shows such as *60 Minutes*, *Today*, *A Current Affair*, *Donahue*, *Geraldo*,

CNN, etc. Paul Noble, a five time Emmy winner, is currently the Director of Feature Films at Lifetime Television. He is co-author of two other books with his wife, Paulette Cooper.

227 Secrets Your Dog Wants You To Know

By Paulette Cooper and Paul Noble
192 pages

\$8.95 paper, ISBN: 0-89815-682-3

\$14.95 cloth, ISBN: 0-89815-737-4

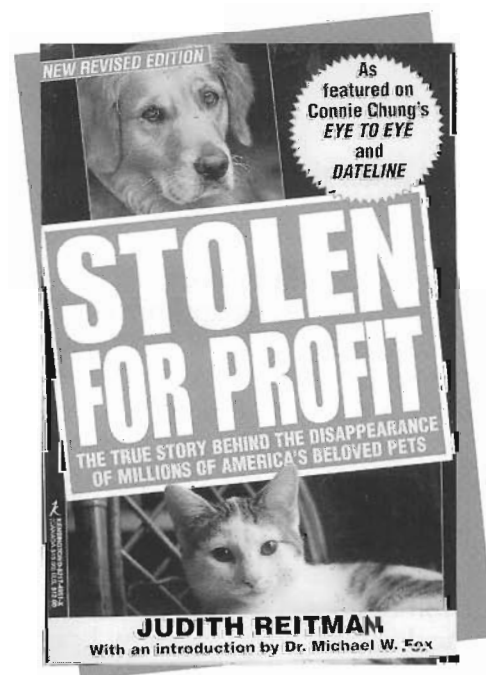
Ten Speed Press

P.O. Box 7123

Berkeley, CA 94707

1-800-841-2665

Stolen for Profit: The True Story Behind the Disappearance of Millions of America's Beloved Pets



America's pets are disappearing. They are vanishing from neighborhood streets, yards, and kennels in every town and city in this country in numbers that are startling. Each year as many as two million family pets are stolen, sold, or traded into

a black market for pet stores, puppy mills, dog-fighting rings, and satanic cults. But the most valued and reliable buyer for these animals is the medical research industry, which can pay premium tax dollars for preferred laboratory subjects: family pets. In *STOLEN FOR PROFIT*, Reitman looks at the government as well as the medical research industry's role in these crimes and explores:

- *Why your pet is at risk*
- *How the thieves operate*
- *What you can do to stop it*
- *Who are the people fighting back*

Included are hundred of interviews with local state, and federal law enforcers, auction owners, medical researchers, reporters, and scores of victims of pet-theft in nearly every state. This is required reading for both animal lovers and the men and women battling pet-napping syndicates. The author, Judith Reitman, is an award-winning journalist

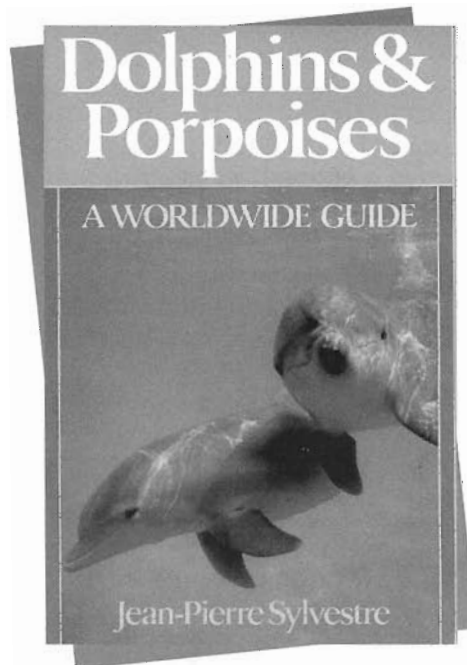
Stolen for Profit

Judith Reitman
 Price \$12.00 Trade Paperback
 Kensington Publishing Corp.
 850 Third Avenue
 New York, NY 10022-6222
 212-407-1500
 ISBN: 0-8217-4951-X

Dolphins & Porpoises: A Worldwide Guide

The ultimate field guide to some of the most fascinating animals in the world

Dive into oceans around the globe to meet 40 of the most enchanting and intriguing aquatic mammals in the world, including the bottlenose dolphin, Dall's porpoise, and the killer whale. Dolphins and porpoises have been admired throughout history, but the question of how much is really known about them remains unanswered. Their high level of intelligence and complex communication systems have captured the attention



of many researchers around the world. Now anyone can marvel at these fantastic creatures. *DOLPHINS & PORPOISES: A Worldwide Guide* offers a rare look at these amazing aquatic animals with lush color photographs and strict attention to scientific detail.

For each animal, uncover fascinating information on its taxonomy, common and scientific names, physical characteristics, reproductive cycle, population, diet, field identification, methods of communication, and distribution (including maps to show where it can be found). Plus, see how humans have interacted with dolphins and porpoises throughout history, and explore the theories behind strandings – are they suicides, an attempt to return to land, the result of internal navigational problems, or something else entirely?

The exquisite photos and interesting facts make it easy to understand why so many people admire and want to understand these graceful and intelligent animals.

“... can serve as a modern field identification guide packed with definitive information authoritative enough for the professional, yet readable for anyone interested in these creatures. Even the youngest can enjoy the bright, colorful pictures, layout and

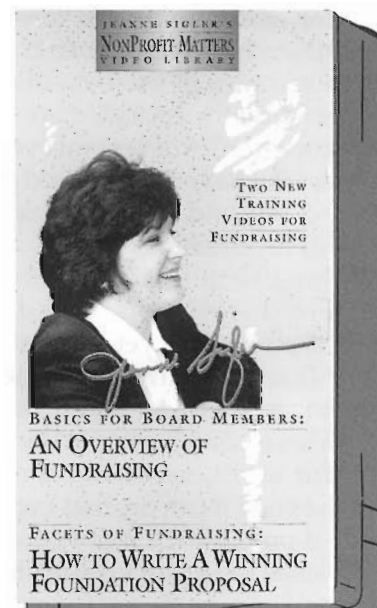
superb photographs.”
 -Science Books & Films

DOLPHINS & PORPOISES: A Worldwide Guide

Jean-Pierre Sylvestre
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 (\$17.95 in Canada)
 ISBN: 0-8069-8793-6
 160 pages (55 in color), 6 X 9
 133 black & white illustrations
 Sterling Publishing Co., Inc.
 387 Park Avenue South
 New York, NY 10016-8810
 212-532-7160

How to Write A Winning Foundation Proposal and Basics for Board Members

These two highly recommended videos take the mystery out of nonprofit fundraising.



Veteran nonprofit fundraising consultant Jeanne Sigler has launched a video library to help nonprofit staff and board members learn how to raise funds more effectively. The first two videos, *Facets of Fundraising.- How to Write A Winning Foundation Proposal and Basics for Board Members. An Overview of Fundraising*, are the launch tapes of a planned multi-volume series.

MEDIA REVIEWS, continued on next page

Facets of Fundraising.- How to Write a Winning Foundation Proposal helps staff members write quality proposals for foundation grants. The video offers step-by-step suggestions for turning a program idea into a clear and cogent proposal to help viewers match their organization's programmatic and financial needs with foundation priorities. It includes tips for organizing a proposal and creating the right tone, as well as advice for crafting a compelling program description.

Basics for Board Members: An Overview of Fundraising focuses on the board member's role as fundraiser. It provides the board member with the essential background for raising funds, including an overview of various types of fundraising activities. In addition, it gives practical advice for overcoming the fear of asking others to give, and offers inspiring examples of the benefits of giving generously. Included are examples and profiles of several board members who have experienced the profound joy and satisfaction of successful fundraising.

'Working with board members who were deeply committed to helping their causes, yet frustrated by their fear of asking for money, led me to create these tapes,' said Sigler. 'There is such satisfaction in asking for a gift, receiving it and seeing the good it can do, that I want to make it possible for more people to experience the joy of fundraising. It doesn't have to be such a mystery,' she added.

The videos are meant for all types of nonprofit and sell for \$79.95 each or \$150 for both. The videos can be ordered by calling 1-800-296-0187. In addition to the video, purchasers will receive a free computer disk containing samples of five winning proposals.

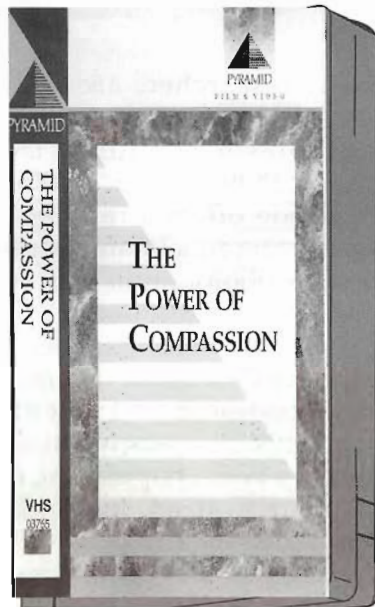
Sigler, President and Founder of Jeanne Sigler & Associates, Inc., a New York based, multi-faceted development and marketing consulting firm has more than twenty years

of experience in the nonprofit world. In recent years she has earned a reputation as a top-notch trainer.

Facets of Fundraising

Jeanne Sigler & Associates, Inc.
500 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3600
New York, NY 10110
Phone 212-730-4461
Fax 212-730-4404
To order: 1-800-296-0187

The Power of Compassion



Using dramatic footage of live euthanasia, abused and neglected animals, and everyday abandonment, *The Power of Compassion*, stresses the immediacy of the crisis of companion animals. Aimed specifically at teenagers — those who offer the best hope of reducing the amount of animal shelter cases now and in the future — this compelling documentary uses the power of film to strike both intellectual and emotional chords with young audiences. In doing so, it impels them to positive action by delineating key solutions, and above all, emphasizing compassion towards all living creatures. Its wisdom is simple: if we can teach kids to care for their pets, we can teach them to care for their

fellow man and ultimately, the world.

The Power of Compassion

Pyramid Film & Video
P.O. Box 1048, Dept. FX
Santa Monica, CA 90406
Tel: 310-828-7577
Fax: 310-453-9083
Toll Free: 800-421-2304
(8:00-5:00, PST)

ORDERING INFORMATION:

All video formats available
3/4" add \$50 to VHS price
Rental: 3-day, \$75 each title



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Please use the envelope inserted in this issue to notify the Foundation of your change of address. Avoid missing an issue of the **Latham Letter** and save us from paying postage on your returned newsletter.



Thank You

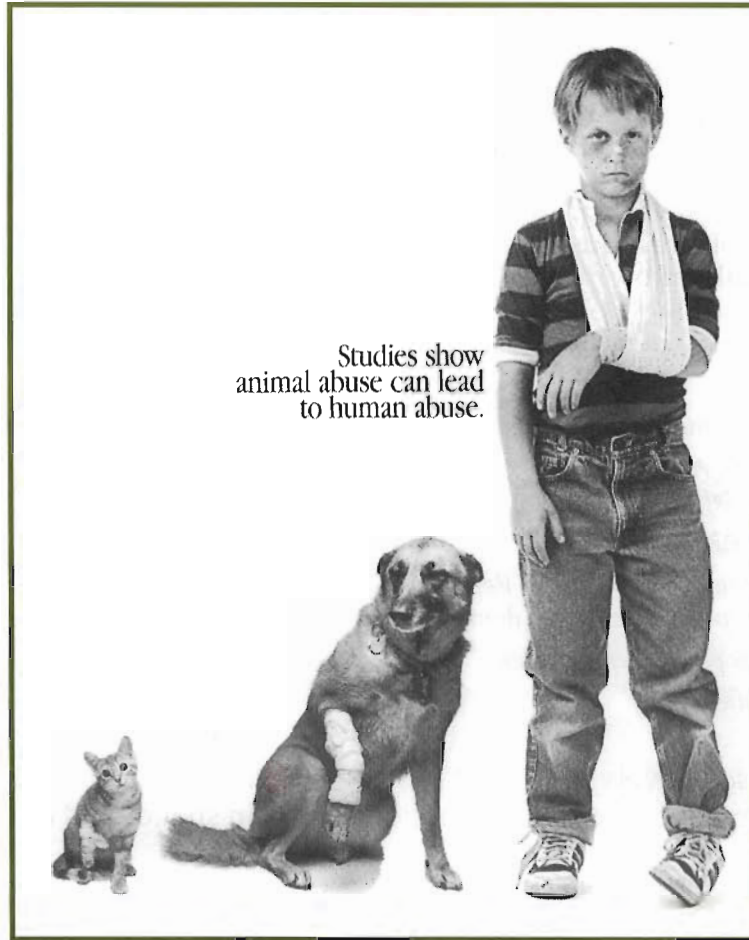
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of animal abuse
just get bigger ...
and bigger ...
and bigger.



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