

Latham Letter

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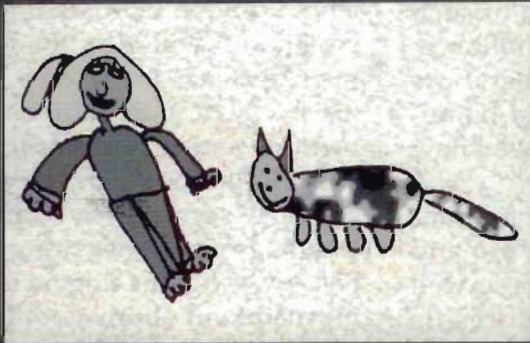
WINTER 1997

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

BREAKING THE CYCLES OF VIOLENCE *A Practical Guide—by Phil Arkow*

"This is my cat.
My dad treats my cat
unfairly like he
treats my mom."

—Jennifer, age 8



A LATHAM FOUNDATION PUBLICATION

The Relationship Between Animal Abuse and Other Forms of Family Violence

Phil Arkow

The association between cruelty to animals and other acts of family violence has received implicit acknowledgment throughout the history of social movements which address both animal welfare and child protection concerns. The system of child protective services as we know it today was an offshoot of the animal protection movement, and the two professions have followed parallel evolutions for more than a century. In recent years, domestic violence intervention programs have also begun to recognize animal abuse as being not only potentially predictive of violent behaviors against humans, but also as part of the constellation of dysfunctional family symptomatology. Abuse against animals, when perpetrated or observed by juveniles, has a pernicious capability of evolving into generalized

"Breaking the Cycles of Violence" is now in its 2nd printing. See page 12.

RELATIONSHIP, continued on page 6

Teens with Positive Attitudes Make Positive Contributions

Aline H. Kidd and Robert M. Kidd

Despite the recent flurry of politicos and mass media badmouthing all adolescents as "aggressors", "abortion survivors", and "drug and alcohol abusers" who are trying to destroy our world and society, there are

many unsung adolescents who do work to improve the environment and the lives of both people and animals. One such group of 12- to 16-year-old adolescents, the Interpretive Guides who "work out" at

TEENS, continued on page 19

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Edith Latham's Mandate:



"To promote, foster, encourage and further the principles of humaneness, kindness and benevolence to all living creatures; the doctrines of universal brotherhood and justice; the prevention and eradication of cruelty to animals and all living creatures, with particular emphasis on the education of children in justice and kindness to animals."

EDITORIAL



Politics, Religion, and Questions

Hugh H. Tebault, President

Even the boldest among us have finally discovered that there are a number of subjects which are wise to avoid. This is interesting, and most unfortunate too, because when we know ourselves to be possessed of such correct opinions, basic charity would seem to demand that those of counter thought should be impressed with the truth as we know it to be.

One particular subject guaranteed to stimulate definite pro and con opinions, and emotions, as well as elevated blood pressures, is *animal research*. It is indeed unlikely that there are many individuals to be found who are without an explicit opinion concerning the practice.

Rather than presenting a catalog of the different opinions regarding animal research held by *Latham Letter* readers, it is the purpose of this editorial to comment on a very interesting, thought provoking article by Bruce Max Feldmann DVM, titled, "The Immorality of Nonhuman Animal Research," which appeared in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association's* June 1, 1996 issue. (JAVMA, Vol 208, No. 11)

In the article, Dr. Feldmann ratio-

nalizes and expands on his stated position: "When we do things to other animals that we do not do to each other, we raise serious moral questions." Credence is lent to that opinion not only because of Dr. Feldmann's professional qualification but also by the fact that his career has included a 12-year involvement in nonhuman animal research and an additional 23-year period during which he provided advisory services for animal protection groups. After citing various historic, religious dogma concerning man-kind's humane obligations to animals, Dr. Feldmann's article presents a number of sincerely expressed thoughtful arguments in support of his belief in a philosophy that implies a basic and continuing responsibility for nonhuman animal care, implied by mankind's uniqueness. The article is concluded with Dr. Feldmann's statement where-with he recognizes that, though his position will be considered extreme, he insists that it is nonetheless honest and correct.

We found it to be particularly impressive and commendable that both the pro and con arguments are so sincerely expressed. And further, while Dr. Feldmann's views are

EDITORIAL... continued on page 4



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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

Update on the Esther Honey Foundation

Dear Latham:

This is an "Opinions" letter in response to your article "The Esther Honey Foundation Provides Veterinarians for the Animals of the Cook Islands" in the Fall 1996 edition of the Latham Letter.



Jared Slather Clinic Manager, Dr. Barry Nichols and his wife Anna, and Honey, the dog who inspired the Esther Honey Foundation's Veterinary Clinic on the island of Rarotonga

"The Latham Letter Editors Note: This is a reminder that one person can make a difference..." This is certainly true, and in this case, that one is Cathy Sue Anunsen. Cathy Sue turned a vacation in the Cook Islands into an example of how one person can effect the lives of thousands of animals.

Since my son, Jared Sather was a veterinary assistant and clinic manager for The Esther Honey Foundation, I was lucky enough to get to visit both him and the clinic in Rarotonga. When I arrived at the airport with four pet carrier/kennels, the first person to greet me asked if I was with the clinic. He said what a wonderful service and necessary work the clinic provides. He then offered to deliver the kennels to the clinic in his van. Good thing, since the clinic has no "vehicle" other than a bike. Otherwise, we would have had

to put wagon wheels on the kennels and pull them down the road!

In the three weeks I visited, I saw cats and dogs with fish poisoning, a dog with a swollen face (insect bite?), a cat with pus in its eyes, a dog with a tumor on its leg, a call asking if a dog can be unneutered, a dog with tetanus, a cat hit by a car, plus numerous stray cats and dogs dumped at the clinic. The strays are cleaned up, given shots, wormed, de-sexed and turned over to the island's animal shelter. The clinic, in addition to basic care and emergencies, does a steady quotient of spay and neuters (over 800 in the year my son was there).

I also got to see a "village visit" where the clinic staff takes their MASH unit on the road to provide care for animals whose owners can't bring them to the clinic. An average of 16 surgeries are completed during these weekly visits, held in community halls on the island. Grateful owners often provide the staff with lunch and send them home with banana bread and other donated food and fruit.

I hope I have given you an idea of what a wonderful service the Esther Honey Foundation provides.

In closing, I would like to tell you that Cathy Sue has never seen "her" clinic. She sends literally every penny donated to the clinic and spends her time fundraising for supplies and volunteers. The Latham Foundation's support (in the form of increased visibility) has been put to good use.

Ellen Sather
Eugene, OR
(ellen@rio.com)

Thanks for HCAB Videos

Dear Latham:

Thank you for your generous donation of your videos, "A Very Special Privilege" and "Phenomenon of HCAB."

OPINIONS, continued on page 4

Michigan Humane Society Wins CLIO Award

These videos will be informative educational tools regarding the healing effects of the human-animal bond.

Sincerely,

Terri M. Austin, Ph.D.
Pet Psyc Youth Programs, Inc.
Monterey, California

From LaJoie and Company

Dear Mr. Tebault,

We have all enjoyed yet another fine issue of the Latham Letter and, as with each one we receive, learn more, and feel encouraged to continue our own work here. I particularly enjoyed your editorial, as I frequently feel that I am not doing enough. One person should do more, push just beyond the comfort zone ... Imagine what could be accomplished if, as you suggest, every person took on just one task that would benefit people and/or animals or the environment?

May I say again how much we all appreciate Latham's dedication and hard work? You certainly set a most positive standard for humanity to follow.

Sincerely,

Rita M. Reynolds
La Joie and Company
P. O. Box 145
Batesville, VA 22924



EDITORIAL, continued from page 2

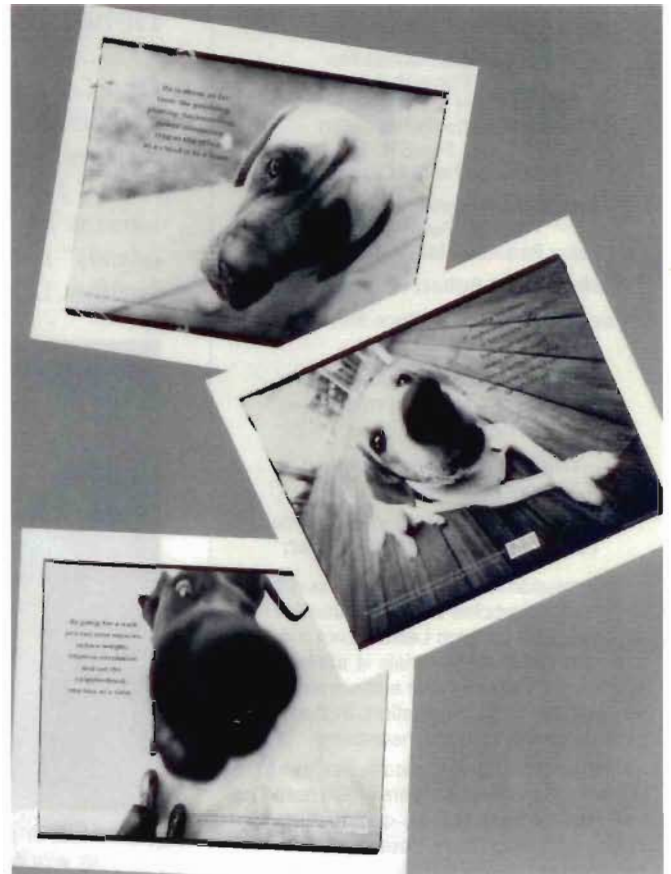
logically and unemotionally presented, those of the animal research project veterinarians which appeared in the Journal's "Letters to the Editor" section (JAVMA, Vol 209, No. 3, August 1, 1996 and No.4, August 15, 1996) expressing dia-metricly opposite opinions, were equally logical and unemotional.



"Who can sniff out the good in you even on a bad day?" asks the Michigan Humane Society (MHS) in a series of three award-winning black and white posters, which recently won the prestigious CLIO Award of Excellence. The posters were designed for Michigan Humane Society by TraverRohrback, Inc. of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The 15" X 12 3/4" posters feature the unique work of renowned photographer, Scott Shulman. Each poster pictures an appealing wide-angle photo of a dog, accompanied by a memorable message that all dog lovers will appreciate. They are available for a donation to the MHS. To order, call (218) 313-2109.

The Michigan Humane Society is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to serving the animals since 1877. MHS operates three full-service shelters and charitable animal hospitals in the metropolitan Detroit area.



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For your convenience Latham accepts:



You may charge new subscriptions, renewals, back issues, videos, and copies of selected studies on the Human Companion Animal Bond.



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Thank You.

Prominent Therapy Dog Shares Her Diary: *Jenni's Journal Part Seven*

February 2, 1994

I started visiting people the minute I walked into the hospital. I first noticed a man sitting on one of the couches in the lobby and was immediately drawn to him. He caught a brief glimpse of me out of the corner of his eye and as he turned to greet me his eyes were smiling. He said his daughter had a dog just like me and my presence gave him comfort while he waited for her to come out of surgery.

My first visit up on the floor was with a lady sitting on her hospital bed with her back to us as we knocked on the door. When she turned to look we could tell she was on the telephone so Mom told her we would come back later. She wouldn't let us leave. "I'll have to call you back later," she said to the person on the other end, "I have to hang up and talk to a dog." Can you just imagine what the person on the other line was thinking? They probably thought she had lost her marbles. Her face was swollen and she could barely see through the small slits in her eyelids but she was anxious to visit with me. Her injuries didn't scare me - I like people no matter how they look. That is why patients like Therapy Dogs so much - we make no judgments and the patients can be themselves with us. After making short visits and visiting lots of patients today, I lay under the desk in the Volunteer Office while Mom did some computer work for the hospital. When that was done and we were leaving the hospital through the lobby, a surgeon in his scrubs saw me headed towards the door and I had to stop and let him pet me for awhile. He said he used to have a dog like me, too.



February 16, 1994

I was busy today. The hospital was full and every door we knocked on the person inside wanted me to visit. It was a great day for me and the patients made me feel like I was a celebrity. I am a celebrity but they don't know that. If the patient was on the phone, they would hang up when they saw me coming so they could spend time with me. If I were in the room and their doctor or a nurse would come in to check them, the patient would make them wait until they were through visiting with me. The doctors and nurses know how important Pet Therapy visits are to the recovery and well-being of the patients so they just

waited patiently until the patient was finished loving on me. Not a one of them got agitated but rather seemed to enjoy watching me work. They could tell I was being effective by the smile I brought to their patient's face. They have witnessed first hand how important the pet visits are to the patients and are more than willing to wait their turn as long as it is a Therapy Dog. Anyone else gets rushed out of the way.

One man I visited today remembered me from my visit two weeks before (I only visit once every two weeks) and he acted like I *was* his long lost friend. Evidently I was his long lost friend because he had no visitors except for me and he had looked forward to seeing me again. Mom didn't remember him from before but I did. We had gotten along really well and I remembered what a good scratcher he was. I remembered how well he knew how to scratch ears. He had had two surgeries since my last visit. Since

we were such good friends, he told me how "down in the dumps" he was today so Mom let me spend some time with him. He told me the doctors wanted to cut his leg off but he didn't want them to just yet. He wanted the doctors to get him well enough to get out of the hospital long enough to fly to Florida to see his grandchildren. He had never seen his grandchildren and he wanted their first impression of him to be with two legs. I wondered if he had ever told these feelings to anyone besides me. I wondered if his doctors knew how he felt. Had he ever told them? Since he was so depressed, we spent lots of time with him; and before we left, we had him telling us funny "dog and alligator" stories from when he used to live in Florida. Little did we know at the time that in six months we would be living in Florida ourselves and would be finding out about alligators first hand.

March 2, 1994

Mom had to cancel my scheduled hospital visit today because I was sick. We can't go to the hospital if we have an ear infection or if we are throwing up or if we have a sore foot. I knew instinctively I was due to visit patients and wanted to go. If we can't make our scheduled visits, we have to get someone to cover for us so Mom got on the phone and got another lady and her dog to take my place. I know how important my job is and feel badly when I can't go. I like making people feel better.

Jenni Dunn and her Mom, Linda Dunn, have been instrumental in the formation and success of animal assisted therapy programs in Wheat Ridge, Colorado and Gainesville, Florida. They have recently moved and hope to continue their good work in the Richland, WA area.

JF

desensitization to violence and into acts of violence in adulthood. Children who observe domestic violence may imitate abusive behaviors through violent acts against animals. For these reasons, domestic violence prevention agencies are encouraged to interface with animal protection organizations to explore common interests and opportunities for professional interaction, including referrals, community awareness programs, cross-training, and joint service programs.

Animal Cruelty as a Harbinger of Psychopathology

A literature search reveals a growing number of references to linkages between cruelty to animals and other forms of antisocial behavior and family violence. Early work by Hellman and Blackman (1966) suggested a positive association between persistent enuresis (bedwetting), firesetting behavior, and overt cruelty to animals which constituted a triad of behaviors useful for predicting future criminal behavior. A critical study (Tapia, 1971) and a follow-up study on the same children (Rigdon & Tapia, 1977) provided the first clear description and systematic study of children who commit animal cruelties. For these children, animal cruelty was a specific presenting complaint. These children usually had additional antisocial behaviors, such as bullying, temper control problems, lying, stealing, hyperactivity or destructive tendencies, but the link between animal cruelty and these other behaviors was unknown.

Tapia's findings (1971) created a profile for the animal-abusing child: A male with an average age of 9.5 years (range: 5-15 years) and an average IQ of 91 (which ruled out mental retardation as an etiologic factor). The childhood history was likely to include gross parental

neglect brutality, rejection, and hostility. None of the 18 boys in the study showed the complete triad of bedwetting, fire setting, and animal cruelty, but all displayed a wide range of antisocial behaviors. In the 1977 study, a majority of the boys were still cruel to animals, had current histories of family difficulties and extreme instability, and were living in chaos compounded by alcoholism, mental illness, and fathers with prison records. Time and maturity were not enough to stop the practice of animal abuse by these children.

Wax and Haddox (1974) interviewed institutionalized adolescent male delinquents to investigate whether the triad behaviors might serve as a potential early warning sign of assaultive behavior. All six adolescents they studied, ranked as the most overtly dangerous assaultive youths in the institution, had recent histories that included the triad. The youths all had histories of pathognomonic variables which include assaultiveness, sexual deviation, family disorganization, maternal deprivation, psychosis, affect disorder, and significant drug usage. Wax and Haddox recommended that physicians, guidance counselors, and others dealing with children should be sensitive to the triad.

Geddes (1977) followed up the Wax and Haddox study in a master's thesis which reported that five of the six youths continued to behave in an extremely violent manner, and may have been even more explosive and dangerous than their case records indicated. Geddes concluded that the triad was a useful and valid clinical tool for predicting violent behavior and was positively associated with severe psychopathology not found in non-violent offenders. She also noted that several of the subjects had been passive recipients of sexual attacks

and subsequently were active participants in sadistic attacks on younger or weaker victims.

Felthous (1980) built on the theory that animal cruelty is a sign of childhood aggression dyscontrol in a study which compared two groups of male psychiatric patients, one with a history of animal cruelty and the other with a history of assaultive behavior. There was substantial commonality in the two groups for certain historical items, including brutal punishment by a parent, temper tantrums, destructive outbursts, and truancy. The group with the history of animal cruelty was significantly more likely to have had an alcoholic father; set destructive fires; had enuresis past age five; and been separated from the father. The cruelty was disproportionately directed against cats rather than dogs.

A later study by Kellert and Felthous (1985) studied the relationship between childhood cruelty to animals and aggression among criminals and noncriminals. They found that childhood cruelty toward animals occurred much more frequently among aggressive criminals than among non-aggressive ones. A preliminary classification was established of nine distinct motives for such cruel behaviors as pulling the wings off sparrows, throwing animals off buildings, placing rat poison in fish bowls, tying cats' tails together, and exploding animals in microwave ovens. These motives are presented in Table 1.

Felthous and Kellert (1986) reiterated the importance of childhood animal cruelty as a behavioral sentinel for disturbed family relationships and as a harbinger of future antisocial acts. They noted that the presence of the triad behaviors alone is not enough by itself to predict future violence, for the

T A B L E 1

Preliminary Classification of Motivations for Cruel and Extremely Aggressive Behavior Toward Animals

1. To control an animal
To control or shape an animal's behavior or eliminate presumably undesirable characteristics of an animal
2. To retaliate against an animal
Extreme punishment or revenge for a presumed wrong on the part of an animal
3. To satisfy a prejudice against a species or breed
May be associated with cultural values
4. To express aggression through an animal
Instilling violent tendencies in the animal in order to express violent, aggressive behaviors toward other people or animals
5. To enhance one's own aggressiveness
To improve one's aggressive skills, or to impress others with a capacity for violence
6. To shock people for amusement
To "entertain" friends
7. To retaliate against another person
Exacting revenge
8. Displacement of hostility from a person to an animal
Displaced aggression against authority figures
9. Nonspecific sadism
Absence of any particular provocation or especially hostile feelings toward an animal

nature, quality, motive, and quantity of abusive acts toward animals affect the predictive value. Certain features of childhood cruelty to animals were called most meaningful to the accurate prediction of later aggression:

1. *Direct involvement with cruelty, rather than simply witnessing the act;*
2. *Lack of self-restraint, or evidence;*
3. *Lack of remorse;*
4. *A variety of cruel acts;*
5. *A variety of species victimized; and*
6. *Actions directed against socially valuable animals (e.g., dogs, not rats)*

The connections between cruelty to animals and other forms of family violence were given additional validity by the revision of the DSM-111-R (American Psychiatric Association, 1987). For the first time, physical cruelty to animals was cited as a diagnostic criterion for Conduct Disorder, a persistent pattern of conduct in which the basic rights of others and major age-appropriate societal norms or rules are violated." The DSM-IV (American Psychiatric Association, 1994) again listed physical cruelty to animals as an aggressive diagnostic criterion for Conduct Disorder. "Individuals with

Conduct Disorder may have little empathy and little concern for the feelings, wishes, and well-being of others. Especially in ambiguous situations, aggressive individuals with this disorder frequently misperceive the intentions of others as more hostile and threatening than is the case and respond with aggression that they then feel is reasonable and justified. They may be callous and lack appropriate feelings of guilt or remorse," said DSM-IV. In this context, "others" may be animals or humans.

High rates of cruelty to animals were reported retrospectively by violent offenders. Ressler, Burgess, & Douglas (1988) studied 28 incarcerated sexual homicide perpetrators and found 36% of them had committed acts of animal cruelty in childhood, and 46% in their adolescence. Tingle et al. (1986) reported 48% of convicted rapists and 30% of convicted child molesters in their sample admitted perpetrating cruelty to animals in their childhood or adolescence. In some reports, killing animals followed killing humans, as in one case cited by Hickey (1991) of an offender who admitted killing several puppies to relieve the experience of murdering his first child victim. Numerous other studies began to demonstrate a compelling connection between childhood cruelty to animals and later antisocial and psychopathological behaviors (Ascione, 1993). Clearly, cruelty to animals is a serious manifestation of psychopathology, particularly when accompanied by other symptoms and a predisposing family history.

Animal Cruelty as a Component of Family Dysfunction

While these studies were linking children's acts of animal abuse as predictive of future violence which

RELATIONSHIP: continued on next page

could escalate in range and severity against other vulnerable victims, including humans, other research was beginning to place animal abuse within the context of family violence as part of a constellation of dysfunctional family patterns. In these environments, abuse of animals is not only perpetrated by children, but also is witnessed by children. Animal abuse also occurs as a coercion technique to intimidate or control children and spouses.

Walker (1980) examined records of families' contacts with child protection and animal protection agencies in Bucks County, PA. Nine percent of the families studied had been reported to both agencies, and similar behaviors by abusive adults toward children and pets were noted. The Walker study verified the validity of the assumption that abusive adults may abuse both their pets and their children. It contained the first written recommendation that close communication between child protective and animal welfare agencies would alert each to potential dangers and help prevent further abuse. Even more dramatic findings came from Great Britain, where Hutton (1981) reported that of 23 families investigated by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for animal abuse or neglect, 82% were also known to local social service agencies as having "children at risk."

DeViney, Dickert, & Lockwood (1983) studied 53 families who met New Jersey's legal criteria for child abuse or neglect and who also had companion animals. Observations during home interviews revealed that pets were abused or neglected in 60% of these families, and in 88% of those families displaying child physical abuse. Interestingly, use of veterinary services, rates of pet sterilization, and levels of basic pet care among the abusive families

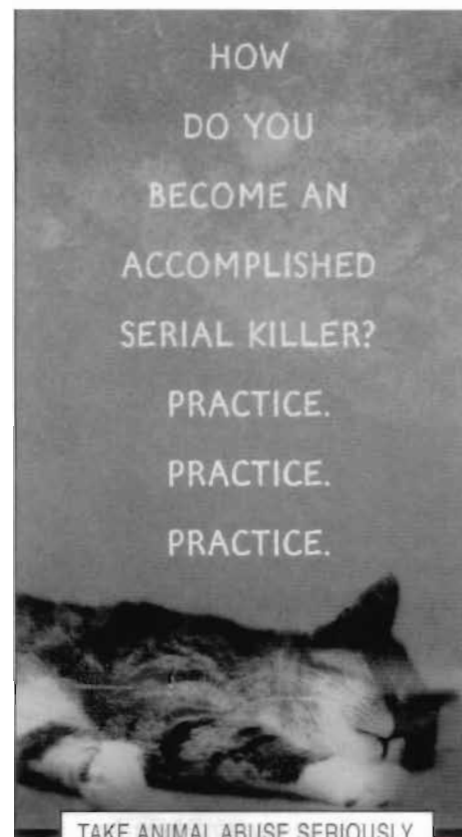
did not differ significantly from general norms. Subsequent writings suggest that veterinarians should recognize their public health responsibilities as reporters of suspected child abuse and family violence (Arkow, 1994b).

Several reports describe the torture and killing of animals by adults as a coercive technique within the contexts of family violence or sexual abuse of children in day care settings (Faller, 1990; Finkelhor, Williams & Bums, 1988). In these instances, children's acquiescence or silence is obtained by threats or actions to kill, hurt, or remove favorite pets. (Miraski, 1992). Battered women have been reported as being forced to perform demeaning acts of bestiality by their husbands or boyfriends (Duam, 1992; Walker, 1979). Coercive and abusive incidents involving animals are also reported to occur in 38% of abusive lesbian relationships (Renzetti, 1992). Boat (1995) has cited numerous authors who describe the abuse, torture, and killing of animals in conjunction with the battering of women, sexual abuse of children, and acts of bestiality.

Examples of coercion which have been reported include shooting, kicking, beating or hitting animals; throwing animals against walls or down stairways; allowing animals (including livestock) to starve; and not letting animals outside and then beating them when they defecate in the house (Arkow, 1994a). The author knows of at least two instances in which abusive males, as a coercive control, forced their wives to keep long-haired cats even though the women were asthmatic.

It is becoming common to find incidents of cruelty to animals included in behavioral checklists and risk assessments conducted during domestic violence shelter intakes.

The Center for Prevention of Domestic Violence in Colorado



Virtually every mass murderer has a history of abusing animals as a child. So, if you see someone abusing an animal, please report it. The violence and the horror it could lead to is unspeakable. For more information, call or write The American Humane Association, 63 Inverness Drive East, Denver, CO, 80112, 1-800-227-4645.

AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION **CAMPAIGN AGAINST VIOLENCE**

© AHA, 1995

Springs, CO, reported that 23% of 122 battered women seeking safehouse refuge, and 10.9% of 1,175 women seeking restraining orders, counseling, or support services, had observed cruelty to animals perpetrated by their abusers (Arkow, 1994a). The Community Coalition Against Violence (Quinlisk, 1995) in La Crosse, Wisconsin, surveyed 72 women utilizing 12 domestic violence prevention

centers throughout Wisconsin. Eighty-six per cent of the respondents had animals in the home and of that group, 80% reported batterers had also been violent toward the animals. Abuse was directed against livestock as well as companion animals. Threats to give pets away to control the woman's or the family's behavior were common. Acts of physical abuse against animals included kicking, hitting, punching, mutilating, and killing; acts of neglect included failure to provide adequate food, water, shelter, or veterinary care. A recent Utah study of 38 women seeking safehouse shelter reported that 71% of those women with pets had observed their male partners threatening to hurt or kill, or actually hurting or killing, one or more pets (Ascione, 1996).

It is not known how many instances of abuse or coercion involving animals are witnessed or perpetrated by children, but they are believed to be substantial. In the Wisconsin study cited above, abuses directed toward animals were done in the presence of women in 87.7% of the cases, and in the presence of children in 75.5% of the cases. In the above mentioned Utah study, 32% of those women with children reported their children had hurt or killed pets, often to imitate the adult violent behaviors they had observed.

While much research seems to confirm the assumption that animal abuse desensitizes perpetrators and observers to other forms of violence, the Wisconsin study reported two cases in which children became protective and caring animal lovers because of the abuse they had witnessed. One respondent observed that even the animals did not like to be around the batterer and that she "should have listened to the animals."

Opportunities for Multidisciplinary Intervention

Given the growing research and anecdotal interest, it is becoming apparent that child protection, domestic violence prevention, and animal welfare and control agencies have a unique opportunity to collaborate in multidisciplinary intervention and prevention strategies which prevent family violence.

Professionals concerned with the prevention of family violence in its various manifestations should be aware of the prevalence of pets and the scope of animal abuse in communities devastated by other forms of violence. Humane agencies routinely investigate 4,000 and 5,000 cases of animal abuse and neglect annually in urban areas such as Houston and Detroit, respectively. Meanwhile, companion animals are present in 57.9% of all U.S. households, and in as many as 78.7% of those households with children (American Veterinary Medical Association, 1992). The potential for companion animals to be included among victims in dysfunctional households is great indeed.

Since humane and animal control officers regularly observe households where domestic violence and/or child abuse and neglect are suspected, and social service caseworkers frequently observe environments in which animals may be abused or neglected, coordinated cross-training and cross-referrals between humane and human services agencies have been recommended (American Humane Association, 1991 & 1992). A training video and manual, *Breaking the Cycles of Violence*, have been produced by the Latham Foundation (1995) of Alameda, CA, to introduce this concept to the professions involved and to provide them with resources for interagency collabora-

tion. The American Humane Association (1995) has published a training manual to teach humane investigators and animal control officers to recognize and report child abuse.

Boat (1995) has listed five reasons why the links between violence to animals and children can no longer be ignored and are worthy of further investigation:

1. *Research and anecdotal reports point to a connection.*
2. *The etiology and expression of cruel behavior in children are not well understood, and the study of children's cruelty to animals may be a revealing source of information.*
3. *Society appears to have a lower tolerance for cruelty to animals than for child maltreatment and the link between violence to both may be used for mutual benefit.*
4. *Coverage for children can be broadened by linking child and animal protective services with cross-training and cross-reporting programs.*
5. *Asking children and caregivers about the existence and treatment of pets may raise "red flags" which warn that the children live in abusive or traumatizing environments.*

There has been some reluctance, however, for one profession to become involved in the recognition and reporting of other forms of violence. Reasons cited for this reluctance include: inadequate information and lack of appropriate training; fear of economic reprisal in the form of erosion of client base or costly litigation; inadequate resources to handle existing priorities adequately; absence of organizational protocols; and inconsistent definitions of "abuse" across professional lines. Nevertheless,

RELATIONSHIP, continued on next page

caseworkers should systematically include questions relating to family histories of animal abuse and neglect on intake and risk assessment questionnaires. Reports of frequent turnover or loss of pets, or of abusive acts to animals, frequently describe a chaotic household where the safety of the woman and children are compromised.

Another barrier against interdisciplinary collaboration is that "cruelty" to animals is emotionally-charged and varies both in cultural context and legal definition across political jurisdictions. Use of the term "cruelty" requires making an uncomfortable value judgment about the perpetrator; the word "abuse" may be more acceptable as it refers to the status of the victim (Odendaal, 1994).

In the absence of a consistent definition of "cruelty," Rowan (1993) has argued that the animal protection field may do well to model child protective services, which differentiates physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect, rather than utilizing a single, all-purpose "cruelty-to-animals" nomenclature. Within Rowan's model, animal "cruelty" would be reserved for a small subset of cases in which the perpetrator gains satisfaction from the animal's suffering. "Cruelty" would be differentiated from "abuse," in which the perpetrator gains satisfaction from the dominance, and from "neglect," passive maltreatment in which no satisfaction is derived.

Despite these barriers, closer cooperation between humane and human services should be effected. Failure by one profession to report suspected abuse in another field only serves to condone and perpetuate the maltreatment. Collaboration accords understaffed community agencies the opportunity to work together synergistically.

Conclusion

There are recurrent reports of serious family dysfunction in the histories of children who are, or were, cruel to animals. Likewise, it is becoming evident that animal abuse occurs regularly in violence-prone families. Children who repeatedly commit violent acts against animals beyond normal exploratory behavior tend to show other abnormal aggressive and anti-social tendencies. Violence against animals cannot be dismissed or treated as an isolated problem. As horrible as the acts themselves are, they must also be considered within the constellation of a much wider picture of family violence. Behind these acts there is a potentially dangerous person, usually within a highly disturbed family. Animal cruelty is part of a collection of behaviors that indicate extreme personal dysfunction with poor impulse control (Lembke, 1994).

Persons in law enforcement, criminal justice, domestic violence prevention, child protective services, and social work who find incidents of violent acts toward animals should be concerned that dangerous aggression is possible. Caseworkers investigating abusive

environments should routinely gather systematic data about the presence or absence of animals in the household and the levels of care and attachment demonstrated to them by both victimizers and victims. Questions relating to pet ownership history, animals serving as a source of emotional support, loss of animals, incidence of cruelty or killing of animals, use of animals to control or coerce a person, sexual interactions with animals, and animal-related fears will be found to be highly revealing. At least one pet maltreatment assessment has been created to begin collecting these data (Ascione & Weber, 1995).

Cross-reporting and data-exchange should be effected between these organizations and the underutilized network of community animal welfare and control agencies. Animal protection agencies not only have resources to care for victimized animals, but also case file data banks which may likely contain corroborating information. Also, concern about the welfare of pets may delay some women from seeking shelter for themselves and their children; the Utah study found 18% of women did not come to the shelter sooner due to worries for their animals' safety.

About the Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute

The Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute (FVSAI) was established in 1984 by Robert Gefner, Ph.D. as an independent, nonprofit (501(C)(3) corporation. The FVSAI is an international resource center and maintains a clearinghouse of categorized references and unpublished papers concerning all aspects of family violence and sexual abuse. It reviews information and materials and then disseminates it through the *Family Violence & Sexual Assault Bulletin*, which is published semi-annually. The purpose of the FVSAI and the FVSAI Bulletin is to improve networking and disseminate information among researchers, practitioners, and agencies.

Their concerns included fears of relinquishing pets, placing pets with neighbors, and abandoning pets to keep them away from the partner (Ascione, 1996).

Domestic violence safehouses can establish referral programs with animal shelters to provide emergency short-term housing or foster care for these pets. One such program has been established in Loudoun County, VA, linking the Abused Women's Shelter, Animal Care & Control, and the Humane Society; pets are picked up and delivered to foster care where they can stay for up to one month while the woman makes other arrangements. "It gives the woman breathing room while the animal is safe, and she can do what she needs to do to get out of an abusive situation, which is very complicated," said Barbara Cassidy, former director of Loudoun County Animal Care & Control (Latham Foundation, 1996).

Animal protection personnel should be cross-trained to recognize, and mandated to report suspected family violence to social service agencies where the welfare of children or spouses is threatened. Already, California has included animal control officers among those professions mandated to report suspected child abuse to child protective service agencies, and San Diego County has initiated a reverse-reporting system whereby child protection case workers must report suspected animal abuse to animal control.

Animal cruelty problems are people problems. When animals are abused, people are at risk, and vice versa. A cohesive, coordinated response may help expand community-wide interventions and prevention programs which will, it is hoped, reduce violence to women, children, and animals.

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golden-hued feathers on the rest of her body were smooth, and ever so finely fringed with an almost-white.

Less than half a mile from the vet's, my anxiety eased. "We've made it, we're here! You're going to be okay. Gonna fix you up, just you wait and see"

We were stopped at a red light, when the goose gave an enormous, rattling shudder, and tried to raise herself from my lap, puff out her wings. I struggled to keep her in place as the light turned green. Oh swell, I thought, she's coming out of shock. How will I contain this huge bird flapping around my car!? She'll hurt herself - I'll have an accident. "No," I said firmly, "you can't fly now, you'll hurt yourself."

Somehow I managed to settle her back down. Then, suddenly, she was completely, differently still. She turned her head toward me, her eyes filled with the purity of her wild, innocent nature. Trying to shake off the sharp new fear in my heart, "Don't you dare," I commanded, "don't you dare die. We're there, sweetheart. We're there. Hang on," I pleaded.

I pulled into the parking lot, made sure she was secure in the coverlet, and plowed into the vet's office. Seeing us, a hefty young fellow standing at the desk, a Doberman dutifully beside him, in one seamless move backed half-way across the room in fright. The woman behind the desk looked up. "Oh! What - what is it?" "A goose," I said urgently through fresh tears, "a Canada goose and she's been hit by a car or something and the vet has to see her right away. She might be dying - she needs help right now. She was wandering the middle of La Brea and Venice and I don't know how she got there - in the middle of the city - you've got to get the vet." "Okay, okay," said the woman. She hurried me to an examining room.

I was holding the goose, not wanting to let the creature out of my grasp. If I just keep holding her, I thought, she'll live. A female vet entered. She helped me put the bird on the table and began to examine her. But now the beautiful animal was quite still. "I'm afraid she's gone," the vet said. "Oh, no," I moaned, tears streaming down my face. "She's so beautiful. Isn't she beautiful?" I said. "Yes, she is," said the sympathetic woman. "How did she ever wind up in the middle of that intersection?" I said, "She could have been injured in flight, lost her way. I don't see any bullet wound. Poison's also a possibility - any number of things," said the woman. "If only I'd gotten here sooner," I said. "She's too beautiful to die like this, so alone." "But she didn't die alone," said the woman, "you were with her." I looked at the vet.

I stroked the beautiful goose one last time and wandered into the waiting room, exhausted by the weight of a not describable sadness.

I thought about the man and the boy - the man's son most likely - who found it amusing to see a gallant wild thing, whose home was the sky, struggling to make its way to safety against all odds. For a long time I sat in my car, remembering the pure, wild goose and how she had felt, warm and secure, in my lap. Finally I pulled myself together; the coverlet was clumped in my lap. Feathers fell from it as I moved it to the passenger seat. I bunched

them together and put them into a red velvet eyeglass case from the glove compartment.

A year later I was in Vancouver, British Columbia, working on a film. Our company was put up at a hotel in the center of town, and I would run in Stanley Park each morning. Vancouver's a great city, and the miracle of Stanley Park's thousand acres in its midst is a brilliant example of urban society living in harmony with nature. The Park's home to a wide variety of ducks and birds, swans, black squirrels, rabbits and raccoons, and other critters that luckily live within its protected borders. In the turmoil of the work that brought me to Vancouver, I found in those mornings in Stanley Park the deep tranquility attainable amidst the joyful commingling of nature's bounty.

Throughout Stanley Park signs are posted giving the treasured Canada geese the right of way; and, in safety, great, majestic herds of them parade elegantly across the roads and through the park. I got in the habit of picking up a feather or two which lay in my path during my morning runs. As small homage to the various feathered creatures that daily brightened my path, I kept them in a glass on the dresser in the bedroom of my hotel suite. The feathers - long, short, tan-spotted, shiny-black-brown, gold-white - are now in a vase on the dresser in my Los Angeles apartment, along with the precious feathers from the red velvet eyeglass case.

The wound of that valiant bird's death is softened now and faded, but her memory lingers. We were friends briefly, and I loved her.

Mary McLaughlin Proteau is an independent writer and producer - and an environmental and animal rights advocate who lives in Los Angeles.



Remember to Recycle





A Year in the Life of A Pioneer in Humane

LATHAM
PLAZA
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About Latham:

The Latham Foundation is the first national organization devoted exclusively to humane education. It is a nonprofit organization promoting respect for *all* life through education. Latham makes grants in kind rather than financial awards. It welcomes joint ventures with other organizations or individuals who share Edith Latham's commitment to the following purpose:

The Latham Foundation is:

- A clearing house for information about humane issues and activities, the human-companion animal bond, animal-assisted therapy, and the prevention of child abuse, animal abuse, and other forms of domestic violence,
- A leader in the prevention of child abuse, animal abuse, and other forms of domestic violence,
- A source for affordable videos,
- The publisher of the Latham Letter,
- The creator and sponsor of the "Search for Excellence" Video Awards.

To foster a deeper understanding of and sympathy with man's relations – the animals – who cannot speak for themselves,

To inculcate the higher principles of humanness upon which the unity and happiness of the world depend,

To emphasize the spiritual fundamentals that lead to world friendship,

To promote the child's character through an understanding of universal kinship.

1996 Programs and Progress

The year 1996 began with a great honor when *Breaking the Cycles of Violence* became the third Latham video in three consecutive years to win the coveted first place award, "The Maxwell," for best video and excellence in videotape production from the Dog Writers' Association of America. Previous winners include *Living with HIV and Pets* and *Canine Good Citizen. Kerry*, which describes the triumph of Kerry Knaus-Hardy and the Horseback Outdoor Recreation and Specialized Equipment and Services program (H.O.R.S.E.S) in Oregon, has also been honored by the Dog Writers' Association.

Orders for the *Breaking the Cycles of Violence* video and its accompanying training manual continued at an encouraging rate throughout the year. The wide use of the video and training manual (now in its second printing) by child and animal welfare agencies is particularly gratifying. Latham trusts that cooperation by child and animal welfare organizations will continue, and as a result, neglect and violence be reduced.



Other Latham videos that continue to receive popular attention and frequent use are *Ability, Not Disability*, *Canine Good Citizen*, *Honey Bees*, *Dolphin Swim Your Humane Society*, *Living with HIV and Pets*, and *Dog Bite Prevention*.

The Foundation is especially pleased to have donated approximately 200 complimentary copies of videos from the *WITHIT* video library (along with appropriate teacher's guides) to deserving schools and school systems.



The Latham Letter

The *Latham Letter* continues to present balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities. Approximately 10,000 veterinarians, students, writers, educators, animal and child welfare professionals, and those persons interested in the interdependence of human and nonhuman animals read each issue.

The Foundation is gratified that articles in the *Letter* have not only called attention to programs and projects deserving attention and replication, but has also generated support for those programs. For example, Tucson Area Psychology Associates, which uses horses for Psychotherapy (instead of the more common physical therapy), is the beneficiary of four new therapy horses from a humane society in California directly as a result of a *Latham Letter* article. Also, the Esther Honey Foundation, which provides veterinarians in the Cook Islands, recently received financial support as a result of attention in the *Latham Letter*, as did the Michigan Humane Society.



Child and Animal Abuse Prevention (CAAP) Project

A new project is in development. Phil Arkow and Dr. Frank Ascione, prominent members of Latham's **Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Committee** and highly respected authorities in their fields, have agreed to co-edit a major publication for Latham as a follow-up to the "Breaking the Cycles of Violence" Video and Training Guide. This book will be a mix of philosophical concerns and workable solutions with the over arching problems of violence in society and the connections between child abuse, animal abuse, and other forms of family violence. Latham is confident that the book will appeal to educators and practitioners in a variety of human service fields as well as animal welfare and protection professionals.

Latham is honored to have the continuing support of the members of its Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Committee in which Phil Arkow and Dr. Ascione (mentioned above) are joined by Mary Pat Boatfield, Executive Director of the Toledo Humane Society, and Robert ten Bensel, M.D., recently retired from the University of Minnesota's Dept. of Maternal and Child Health Care. These highly respected professionals have represented Latham at many national and international conferences.

Information Requests

Latham was gratified to fill hundreds of requests for printed information and videos about the human companion animal bond, animal assisted therapy, the prevention of child and animal abuse and domestic violence, and humane education in 1996. These requests came from students, veterinarians and other individuals, the media, and a wide variety of human service and animal welfare organizations.

The Foundation's **Home Page on the World Wide Web** is another new project being met with much enthusiasm and success. The site, <http://www.Latham.org> contains a general description of services, history, and details of the videos and printed materials available through the Foundation. Anyone searching the Internet for any of the topics on which we have information, such as the human companion animal bond or animal assisted therapy, will discover the Latham Foundation and all its materials and projects. As a result, Latham has received many requests and orders for selected studies and videos through this widely available on-line presence.



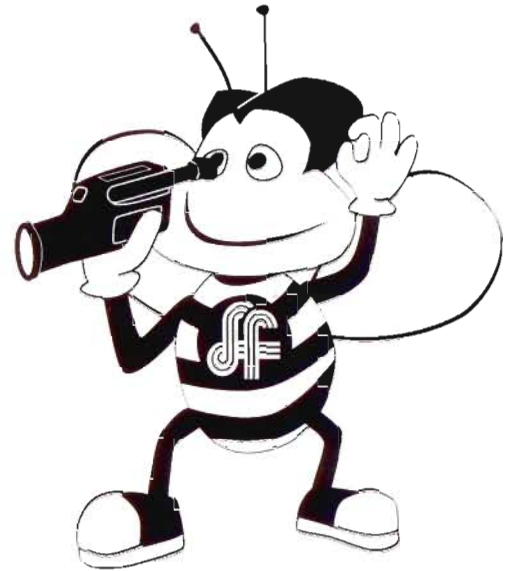
A YEAR IN THE LIFE, continued on next page

“Search for Excellence” Video Awards

Latham has received many awards throughout the past 78 years for excellence in radio, film, and video production. This year the Foundation added another chapter in its unique and proud history by launching the “Search for Excellence” Video Awards, which will honor and encourage the video accomplishments of others.

One purpose of this national search is to recognize quality video productions promoting respect for all life. An equally important goal is to encourage organizations to share their successful projects. Latham will then disseminate this information and as a result, others may be inspired to initiate similar projects.

More than 100 organizations and individuals requested entry information and applications. Judging takes place during the next several months and results will be announced in a special issue of the Summer *Latham Letter*.



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Latham's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Project Represented at the 11th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D.

Two reports appeared in *The Washington Post* on consecutive days, the week of September 16, 1996. The first reported on the DC Police "... searching for two boys who walked a neighbor's dog up three flights of stairs to the roof of a Capitol Hill apartment building and then dropped her to the hard earth below" (Linda Wheeler, *The Washington Post*, September 18, 1996, p. C1). The Brittany spaniel, Coco, survived but in the words of the attending veterinarian, "Thank God we don't see these kind of injuries very often". The second report noted the release of the federal government's most recent data on child abuse and neglect in the United States. From 1986 to 1993, child abuse and neglect rose from 1.4 million to 2.8 million cases and the estimates are the "...the number of children who were seriously injured as a result of maltreatment climbed from 143,000 to nearly 570,000" (Barbara Vobejda, *The Washington Post*, September 19, 1996, p. A8).

These news reports coincided with the meetings of the 11th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect held in Washington, DC. This is the second such conference at which the Latham Foundation's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Project has been represented, I was privileged to serve as the Foundation's representative at these meetings and had the opportunity to discuss with numerous delegates the Foundation's efforts to address the link between the maltreatment of children and the abuse of animals. In addition, I presented a Foundation-sponsored

workshop that was unique among all the presentations in dealing with confluence of child abuse, domestic violence, and the abuse of animals. The content of the workshop addressed a number of issues that I will now summarize.

As part of its Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Project, the Latham Foundation has focused educational efforts on multidisciplinary approaches to assessing and reducing violence toward all vulnerable members of our society, especially children, women, and animals. This workshop provided attendees with historical and background information on the associations between the maltreatment of children and



women, and animal abuse. Current research on these associations was presented and examples of multidisciplinary, collaborative approaches to identification, prevention, and intervention for child maltreatment, partner abuse, and cruelty to animals were described.



Anne Chon Donnelly,
Executive Director,
National Committee to
Prevent Child Abuse

The Latham Foundation Publication (1995), "Breaking the Cycles of Violence" and segments of an associated video production served as the framework for this workshop.

The specific systems that interface in such multidisciplinary efforts include child welfare, domestic violence services (especially shelters for battered partners), law enforcement, and animal welfare. Collaborating disciplines include (but are not limited to) psychology, psychiatry, veterinary medicine, public health, and social work. Common areas of interest include risk assessment and diagnostic criteria (e.g., DSM IV Conduct Disorder symptomatology includes cruelty to people and animals), issues related to mandated reporting (e.g., veterinarians' responsibility in reporting child abuse and animal abuse), and criminal justice system response (e.g., level of offense for child, partner, and animal abuse).

Latham's Role

The overarching goal of Latham's program is to reduce violence to all vulnerable individuals by directing attention to the poten-

CONFERENCE, continued on next page

tial relations between child abuse, partner abuse, and animal maltreatment. Specific objectives include a) fostering collaboration on education and prevention programs, b) encouraging coordination of research to address all forms of family violence, c) serving as a resource for providing expert advice and testimony on animal cruelty related issues, d) promoting state-level legislative change to benefit the vulnerable groups, and e) promoting the integration of intervention that addresses common underlying targets (e.g., developing empathy, encouraging non-violent problem solving).

The Latham Foundation has used a number of strategies directed toward these objectives. They include a) summarizing research on the associations among child maltreatment, partner abuse, and cruelty to animals, b) disseminating resources that include "Breaking the Cycles of Violence" Practical Guide authored



Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services

by Phil Arkow and various newsletter articles describing models of collaborative, multidisciplinary programs (e.g., those of the Toledo Humane Society, Orchards Children's Services with the Michigan Humane Society), and c) encouraging cross-training efforts whereby animal control workers are trained to be alert for potential child and spouse abuse and child welfare and



domestic violence specialists are trained to attend to animal maltreatment.


Barriers to these collaborative, multidisciplinary efforts were discussed and included portraying child/partner/animal welfare issues as mutually exclusive and antagonistic, identifying who the client is (e.g., child or parent for a pediatrician, pet animal or owner for a veterinarian) and the professional's role in reporting and providing services, and competition for resources. Despite these barriers, current achievements include publication of a widely disseminated practical guidebook, descriptions of model programs including practical information on obstacles overcome, cases where cross-reporting of different forms of abuse has been formalized (e.g., a San Diego ordinance on child welfare reports of animal maltreatment), international outreach efforts, and highlighting areas for future attention (e.g., providing crisis animal care for battered partners whose fears for their pets safety may be preventing them from seeking shelter with their children).

During the course of the five-day conference, attendees heard invited addresses by Jonathan Kozol (author of *Amazing Grace*), Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, and Anne Cohn Donnelly, Executive Director of the National

Committee to Prevent Child Abuse. Workshops and seminars covered a multitude of topics including current challenges to protective services and controversy over family preservation, law enforcement, legal and judicial responses to child maltreatment, treatment of abused children and children exposed to family violence, the relation of substance abuse to child maltreatment, and interventions for youthful sex offenders. The richness and diversity of topics spoke to continued national efforts to address the violence that affects all vulnerable individuals in our society.

The most recent data on child abuse and neglect (Third National Incidence Study - NIS3) are available by writing to the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information, P. O. Box 1182, Washington, DC 20013-1182 or by calling (800) FYI-3366.



Frank Ascione, Ph.D. is a Psychology Professor at Utah State University in Logan, Utah and a member of Latham's Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Advisory Committee. 

THE GOOSE

Mary McLaughlin Proteau

My car was crammed with stuff for a garage sale at a friend's house. Having gone mercilessly through closets, yanking things I hadn't worn in years - would never wear again - I was feeling cheerful and virtuous.

It was a bright, shining Saturday morning in Los Angeles as I headed for West L.A. Turning onto Venice Boulevard and into the far left lane, I braked quickly - The car smack in front of me had slowed almost to a stop - the driver laughing and motioning to a young boy seated in the passenger seat to look out the window. Hey! move over, I grumbled to myself. Impatient to pass, I checked the rearview, when, curiosity getting the best of me, I looked where the driver, still laughing, was pointing. What I saw took my breath away.

At the intersection of LaBrea Avenue and Venice Boulevard twelve lanes of traffic converge - three lanes in either direction on both streets. In the center of this urban snare, a beautiful Canada goose - its distinctive black head and beak, white patch under its throat haltingly made its way along the macadam. Some drivers slowed, craning their necks; others, never taking their foot off the gas pedal, swerved around the pitiful bird.

My heart about stopped at the sight of the exquisite wild thing, obviously dazed, and surely terrorized by the loud, ugly noise of the cars offering the noxious smell and smoke of their exhausts to the elegant creature in their path. I took the next U-turn and headed for the intersection. The bird was in the center lane. Slowing to a crawl, I pulled behind it, put on my hazard lights, stopped the car and got out. Of course the animal's instinct would

be to fly - if it could - to avoid my grasp. I inched my way toward the goose, now trying to maneuver itself under the rear of my car. I shoved aside the urge to grab for it before it could escape. I saw no blood, its feathers were not damaged; but clearly it was badly wounded, and was courageously using the whisper of its remaining strength to keep moving.

Calmly as possible, I opened the trunk of my car and reached for a cotton coverlet, an intended garage sale item. The bird was still trying to move away from me, get under the car, but it was so weak it could not escape. One thing to get this close, I thought, quite another to succeed in covering the animal for safe transport. Please, I begged, my sense of urgency rising, please don't try to fly. You have to let me help you. I put the cover gently around its enormous body. It made no sound, no sudden move, did not - could not - lift its broad, graceful wings and fly. I stood, struggling for balance under the surprising weight and bulk of the great animal. It was completely still, and just let me hold it. Overwhelmed with emotion by the plight of the creature, I now needed to think clearly. The vet. Hurry! She's probably in shock; keep her warm. She poked her graceful black head above folds of the coverlet as I drew it snugly round her. Somehow I managed to settle myself behind the steering wheel, with the huge bird - she must have weighed 15 lbs. in my lap. I couldn't take the chance that she would suddenly revive and try to fly; I had to hold onto her.

The scariest part is over, I said to myself, relieved that she was now safely in the car. You've got her, she'll be okay, I thought. Only then



did I become aware of the traffic, of honking horns and drivers' rude gestures. We were off. The vet was about three miles away in Beverly Hills, where, before they adopted me, my two cats had been kenneled by an animal rescue organization.

The goose was quiet in my lap, and looked out the window as I muttered soothing words and sounds, as much for her comfort as for my own. The animal seemed calm and content; but I knew in my heart that it was terribly hurt. I petted my precious charge and kept up a reassuring monolog: "What a valiant beauty you are," I said, "you're going to be just fine. Get you fixed up in no time." I'd never held an enormous wild creature like this, and I felt honored, humbled. Stopped for traffic lights, I became aware of drivers peering in amazement at what they no doubt thought was a pet.

The feathered beauty angled her head toward me, her onyx-black eyes spoke innocence and trust. Some ancient communication was palpably present: she knew I was her friend. "You're going to be okay," I told her. I drove on, resisting the growing urge to honk the horn and run red lights like an ambulance driver. Comfortable by now with the warm, reassuring bulk of my new friend, I drove onehanded, stroking her with the other. The once-white feathered vee on her neck was soiled, but the

GOOSE, continued on next page

the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek, California, succeeds in improving children's and adult's knowledge of animals and animal care, in teaching the importance of animals to people of all ages, and in caring for injured wildlife that can not be returned to their normal wild estates.

With the enthusiastic support of Cassandra Smith, the Youth Program Manager at the Museum, we interviewed all 63 of the youthful Guides. Like all such groups which work with animal welfare, two-thirds were girls and one-third were boys. The average age was 14-and-a-half years and the average educational level was 9th grade. The majority of them had learned about the Interpretive Guides program from family members and friends. The Guides receive training for their participation in a large number of the Museum's teaching and docent activities. They learn how to walk through the Museum carrying a bird



Leah Daver

or animal or snake while describing the behavior and kind of care needed by that particular life form and answering any questions the children and adults ask about it. They practice and then give speeches and other presentations designed by the Museum staff to educate groups about animal life and care. They take turns leading the Museum tours, discussing the various wildlife species on display, highlighting their characteristics

and the reasons why many of the injured cannot be returned to their normal wild habitats.

They staff the Pet Lending Library where people, after having been instructed about any special care needs for a particular animal, may "borrow" and care for that animal in their homes for a week. They also staff the Petting Circle, where the Guides bring out, hold, and display a Guinea Pig, Hamster, Rabbit, or Rat in turn for fifteen minute intervals and teach the younger children visiting the Circle how to touch, pet and handle it. Here they learn how to use their own good judgment as to when the animal is becoming too tense or nervous because there are too many children crowding around to touch and pet, or making too much noise, and, if so, return the animal to its shelter.

It is in these moments of expressing their own positive feelings and attitudes about interactions of humans with wildlife that these Guides get their biggest emotional returns for this investment of their time and efforts. These young Guides really enjoy teaching and talking about the animals with the young children and their parents. And, of course, they themselves secretly enjoy being able to hold and cuddle the animals while they talk about them. Many of the Guides, mostly the girls, said they really enjoyed the opportunity to work with and talk to the younger visiting children.

They were, however, not unrealistically enthusiastic about all the aspects of being Interpretive Guides. Almost one-fifth of them were offended by some of the older Volunteer Museum Docents who tended to snub them for their youth, and were dismayed by those older museum visitors who seemed to delight



Michelle Kleisath

in arguing with them about the factual information the Museum trained them to use in talking about the various animals. And, of course, almost all agreed on complaining about "worm composting" (cleaning out the worm tunnels in the compost heaps) and the occasional cage cleaning. But all in all, however, these few complaints did not take away their positive enthusiasm for the Guides program in general.

After all, these guides have given from 9 months to 4 years, with an average of 1-year-8-months, of their "growing up experience" time, to the program! Even the four who had temporarily dropped out of the program during the school year because they could not compete in athletics and serve in the Guides at the same time planned to return and pursue Guide work during the summer.

The majority of these youthful Guides said they had been interested in wildlife their entire young lives. The primary source of their interest was other family members. Their parents had taken them early

TEENS, continued on next page

on to zoos, museums, aquariums, and various wildlife lectures; taken them hiking, camping, fishing, and on other nature maneuvers. Grandparents, for almost one-third of them, had also taken them to zoos, museums, aquariums, and lectures; taken them on bird-watching, hiking, and camping trips. All but three had had pets given to them by their parents. Indeed, parental and grandparental enthusiasm for

create these positive attitudes. Ninety percent had visited the Museum before enlisting in the program, and had been much impressed by the enthusiasm for wildlife caretaking of the Lindsay staff and adult volunteer docents.

These Interpretive Guides' experiences also have been important to their career planning. The majority want to become veterinarians, marine biologists, scientists in associated areas of concern, and workers in the environmental problems field.

Like the positive-minded group of volunteers in the Museum's wildlife rehabilitation program, clearly, the Interpretive Guides program at the Lindsay Wildlife Museum constitutes a group of positive-minded adolescents who are working very hard to improve the lives of both animals and people of all types and ages. It's also worth noting from the data that because all of our "positive attitude" Guides' time was taken up by their public schooling as well as their private volunteering they had very little time in their lives left for getting into trouble with society and the law with any of the



Barry Horewitch



Dana DuRee, Cristina Lichauco, & Susan Bertuleit

animals and wildlife had helped create these Guides' positive attitudes.

Obviously, too, the Lindsay Wildlife Museum has also helped

behaviors described by the politicians and mass media "experts on adolescents." As a matter of fact, without any recruiting so far, the Museum already has 96 applicants for places in next year's program.

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



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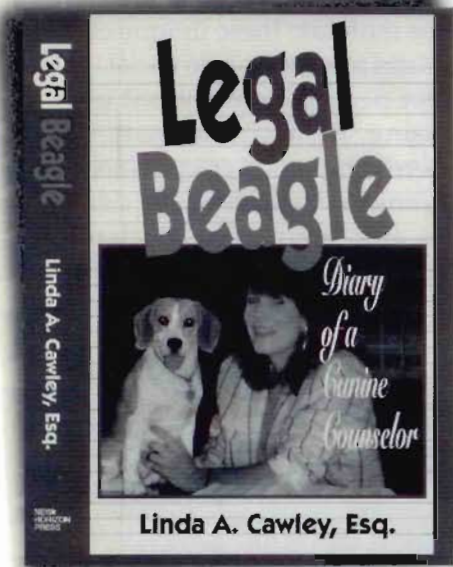
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COUNTRY'S FIRST AND ONLY "DOG LAWYER" TELLS TALE OF CANINE JURISPRUDENCE



Dog law did not exist until Linda Cawley conceived it. In *LEGAL BEAGLE. Diary of a Canine Counselor*, she shares her unique life story—from a childhood spent loving dogs and an early interest in the law to her fusion of these two passions into a fulfilling and ground-breaking career. With the only law practice in the country dedicated to the intricacies of Dog Law, Cawley has become the expert on the subject and has won the affection of dog lovers across the nation.

Cawley relates how she started her Dog Law practice when she encountered myriad breeder's contracts shot through with loopholes. Placing an ad in the yellow pages 'under "Dog," Cawley was soon inundated with calls from potential clients—dog owners fighting for their rights against unfair laws, irate neighbors, shifty breeders, and reckless veterinarians. Her first few cases foreshadowed the diversity and unconventional nature of the issues she would make her business.

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

From the client with 104 poodles fighting a zoning ordinance to the welfare recipient duped out of more than \$1000 for a terminally ill puppy; from a pet shop employee fired after a prized Chow died, to the wealthy woman who died and left her estate to her dog, Cawley's case-load has been filled with tangled, emotional, exciting, and sometime eccentric legal matters.

Winning case after case, her reputation as a canine counselor has spread far beyond the environs of her Denver-based practice. Her tenacious advocacy for the rights of pet owners as well as her knowledgeable animal law articles in *Positively Pets* magazine and elsewhere have won her the uncontested honor as America's foremost pets-rights mediator, capturing media attention worldwide.

As well as the engaging story of her life as a canine counselor, Cawley examines the present status of dog law and projects the trends for future dog laws and their interpretations by the courts. She suggests how dog owners can keep themselves and their dogs out of court, but offers recommendations for those charged with dog law violations.

Infused with Linda Cawley's singular, passionate concern for animals, *LEGAL BEAGLE* shares the sometimes amusing, sometimes disturbing, sometimes heartbreaking and often heartwarming true stories of her unique law practice as a canine counselor.

The Latham Foundation found this book to be infinitely educational as to what is not being done to protect our animals. It is funny; it is sad; and it is wonderful that Linda Cawley is doing what she is to educate courts about the rights of animals.

Linda Cawley began her Dog Law practice in California in 1988.

Now based in Denver, it is still considered the only legal practice of its kind. She has lectured extensively on the subject, has appeared on television shows, and has been featured in newspapers like *USA Today* and such publications as *People*, *Dog World*, and *Woman's World*. Cawley has authored articles on Dog Law for many magazines, as well as for *E-PET*, a computer online service. She earned her B.A. at the University of Colorado and her J.D. at the University of Denver and is licensed to practice in California, Colorado, Nevada, Minnesota, and Washington, D.C. She lives in Denver, Colorado with her husband, her baby daughter, and her dogs, Dar and Anke.

LEGAL BEAGLE *Diary of a Canine Counselor*

Linda A. Cawley
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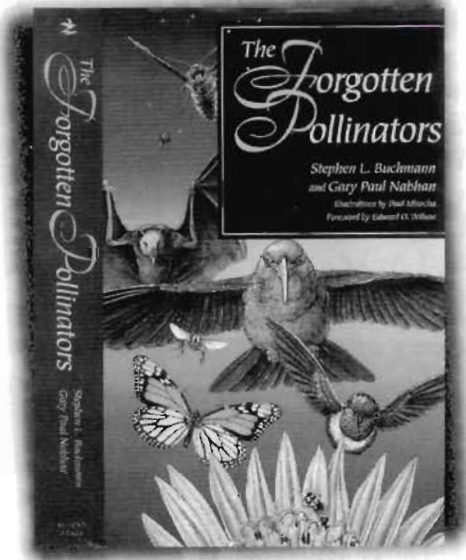
The Forgotten Pollinators

THE FORGOTTEN POLLINATORS shows why we need the birds and bees. Imagine Thanksgiving without cranberries, Halloween without pumpkins, dessert without chocolate, or fig bars without the figs. Impossible? Not if we continue to ignore the creatures involved in the creation of these fruits...the bees, beetles, butterflies, birds, moths, bats, and other animals that pollinate our plants.

THE FORGOTTEN POLLINATORS, a new book from Shearwater Books/Island Press published in July 1996, brings pollination - perhaps our most vital, yet least understood natural relationship - to life.

MEDIA REVIEWS, continued on next page

Authors Stephen L. Buchmann, one of the world's leading authorities on bees and pollination, and Gary Paul Nabhan, desert ecologist and author of nine books, including *The Geography of Childhood* and *Songbirds, Truffles, and Wolves* vividly portray the fragile beauty of this relationship while helping us understand the crucial connections between both plants and animals and humans and nature.



In a lively, engaging style, Buchmann and Nabhan relate anecdotes and vignettes from scientific fieldwork around the world. We search for bearclaw poppies in Utah; visit a threatened species of primrose in the suburbs of Tokyo; join a Malayan honey-hunting ritual; and watch the surprising diversity of local pollinators in our own backyard garden. Throughout, we witness the impact of pesticide use and habitat fragmentation and destruction.

THE FORGOTTEN POLLINATORS is the centerpiece of a public awareness campaign founded by Drs. Nabhan and Buchmann and based at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. The campaign includes leading natural scientists, ecologists, and numerous environmental groups working to educate

teachers and students, scientists, policymakers, and the general public about how to improve pollination of crops, protect pollinators globally, and help conserve rare plants.

Stephen L. Buchmann, Ph.D., is a research associate at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and teaches in the entomology department at the University of Arizona. A Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, Dr. Buchmann is one of the world's leading authorities on wild and honey bees and the author or co-author of more than 125 scientific and popular articles and co-editor of *Conservation of Bees* (forthcoming, Academic Press). In one of Dr. Buchmann's best known experiments - which received worldwide publicity - he developed some of the world's smallest "bar codes" and placed them on bees to track their entrances and exits from their hives.

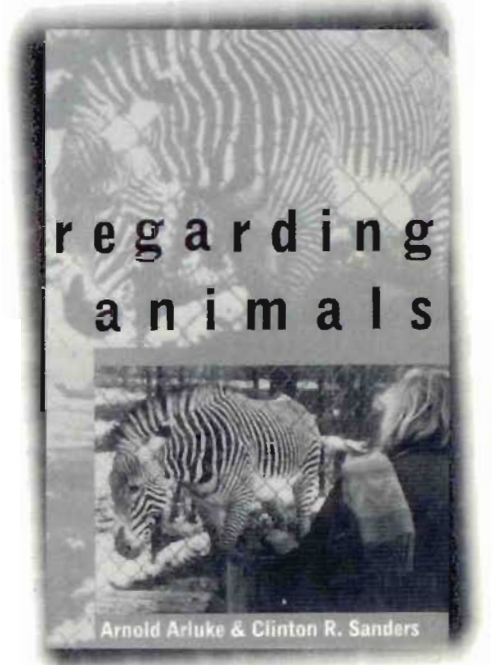
Since 1975, Gary Nabhan, Ph.D., has lived in and roamed the ancient cactus forests, mesquite grasslands and hidden oases of the Sonoran Desert straddling the U.S./Mexico border. Dr. Nabhan's original scholarship - based in more than 200 articles he has authored or co-authored - integrates conservation biology, agro-ecology, ethnobotany, and applied anthropology in unique and unforeseen ways. A founder of Native Seeds/SEARCH - a grassroots, multi-cultural conservation group - he now serves as Director of Science at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. He is a recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship, a Pew Scholarship on Conservation and the Environment, the Premio Gaia, and the John Burroughs Medal for natural history writing.

The Forgotten Pollinators

Stephen L. Buchmann &
Gary Paul Nabhan
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Regarding Animals

Animals are sold as expensive commodities, used as food and clothing, killed as vermin, and hunted for sport. But they also are treated as members of the family, used as the cause celebre of social movements and made the subject of art, film, and poetry. Such contradictions motivate these unique ethnographers to venture into social worlds most people know about only in passing, such as veterinary clinics where companion animals are cared for, animal shelters where dogs and cats are "mercifully" euthanized, and primate labs where monkeys are kept for animal experimentation.



This fascinating book combines sociological analysis with ethnographic description to give us insight into the history and practice of how we as human beings construct animals, and by extrapolation, how we construct ourselves and others in relation to them.

Regarding Animals

Arnold Arluke, Ph.D. and
Clinton R. Sanders, Ph.D.
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