PRESIDENT’S PERSPECTIVE

The March of Change: One Step at a Time

We must demonstrate our support for the cause of animal protection.

The nineteenth-century British philosopher John Stuart Mill said all successful social movements go through three stages: ridicule, discussion, and adoption. The animal-protection movement, over the course of decades, has attracted its share of ridicule from pundits, politicians, and, on occasion, the public at large, but there can be no doubt that the period of ridicule has largely passed. Americans are engaging in a serious debate and discussion over a simple question with sweeping consequences: Do animals matter?

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We must demonstrate our support for the cause of animal protection. Take the case of the 1995 HSUS Legislative Achievement Award recipients. Grass-roots activists recognized for their outstanding legislative accomplishments in the name of animal protection. In Illinois Chris Higens worked unstintingly for legislation to protect guard dogs who endure the cold and loneliness of the night. Pamela Frasch and Sharon Harmon teamed up in Oregon to help pass the nation’s toughest anticyruelty law. Lina Jennings rounded up support in every corner of New Mexico to win a statewide ban on the brutal practice of horse tripping at Mexican-style rodeos.

These activists and their creative and indefatigable efforts serve as models for us all, and they show that change is possible when people of conscience take action. They also show us that it is important to stand up and be counted.

The day is June 23, 1996. The occasion is the 1996 March for the Animals in Washington, D.C. The purpose is to demonstrate to the world that a humane society must account for the interests and well-being of animals (see page 17).

The time has come for the animal-protection movement to demonstrate the depth and breadth of our support for the cause of animals by assembling and marching in our nation’s capital. It will be a march to show that we are not a fly-by-night cause or a case of sentimentalism gone mad, a march to show that mainstream Americans have a steadfast intent to end the deliberate and unnecessary harming and torturing of animals in our society.

The HSUS, as the world’s largest animal-protection organization, is an international sponsor of the 1996 March for the Animals. We endorse this historic event, organized by the National Alliance for Animals, and we challenge every member of The HSUS to travel to Washington, D.C., to participate in it.

Change happens one step at a time; so does a successful march. Join us in June for the 1996 March for the Animals in Washington, D.C.
THE U.S. COURT of International Trade ruled in late December 1995 that the United States must bar shrimp imports from countries that do not have turtle conservation measures in place risky by May 1996. The ruling was the result of a lawsuit filed by Earth Island Institute, The HSUS, and several other groups. All nations, trading with the United States, will be required to reduce sea turtle mortality by 97 percent or face an embargo on their shrimp products. This dramatic reduction in sea turtle deaths can be achieved with the proper use of turtle excluder devices (TEDs) on U.S. shrimp boats. TEDs have been required on all U.S. shrimp vessels.

THE THIRD ANNUAL National Farm Animals Awareness Week (NFAAW), September 17 to 23, 1995, featured new ways to raise awareness about farm animals and their behavior. The top prize of $1,000 was awarded to the Hendre County Humane Society (HCHS) in Brownsville, Indiana. The HCHS proposed the week by giving a group of children and a local television news crew an educational farm tour.

The Humane Society of Boulder Valley, Colorado, won $750 for attracting the most positive media attention for the week, and $250 was awarded to Animalahara, a children’s educational outreach program in Jenkinson, Pennsyl

ylvania, for the most innovative new activity. Five prizes of $50 each were awarded to individuals who shared fascinating facts about farm animals. The winners were Viktor Reinhart, Ambuja Rosen (Oregon), Nan Johnson (Mississippi), Debbie Edwards (Virginia), and Kori Keane (Vermont). Three prizes of $50 each were awarded for photography of farm animals. The winners in this category were Tamra Bell, Viktor Reinhart, and Debbie Edwards.

OVER THE LAST DECADE, severe droughts and local overpopulation have put thousands of wild horses at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada at risk of dying of thirst, and denuded ranges surround the widely scattered waterholes. These horses have been rounded up by the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) ten times in the last ten years, with fewer hores at new adoption and older, unadoptable horses being re

turned to the range. To begin to control the Nellis horse population, PZP was approved for stress

ful studies. The HSUS is working through the immunoco

traception research team, and BLM officials treated 270 Nellis horses with the immunoco

traceptive PZP (porcine zp3) in January. While

partly designed to test advanced preparation of the PZP vaccine, the project is also designed to reduce the horses’ population growth in one area of the base, Cactus Flat.

Preliminary evaluation of the effects of PZP treatments on pregnancy rates will begin this autumn, and documentation of population effects will begin in summer 1997. The HSUS is encouraged that the PZP vaccine is being considered as a humane alternative for management of wild horse populations.

LAST YEAR THE HSUS and the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) cosponsored the first annual National Dog-Bite Prevention Week. In 1996 the HSUS and the USPS will again observe the week, June 10–15. They will join 30 other major animal-protection groups across the country, including the American Humane Assoc

iation, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Massachu

etts Society for the Pre

vention of Cruelty to Animals. Projects include a mailing to every postmaster in the country, as well as production of an educational poster and related materials focusing on dog-bite prevention, safety around dogs, and responsible pet ownership. Plans for cooperative events between local animal shelters and post offices are already under way.

IN AN HSUS REPORT released in February, statistics reveal the for

industry’s steady de

cline. The number of Amer

can fur trappers declined from 213,000 in 1990 to 170,000 in 1994; the num

ber of U.S. fur

farmer manufacturers and fur retailers that go out of business risen each year. The smaller the market for fur garments, the fewer the number of animals who suffer and die for a frivolous fashion. The HSUS continues its educa
tional efforts to reveal the cru

elities involved in fur fashion. For a copy of the report, send $1 to: Fur Decline Report, The HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Wash

ington, D.C. 20037.

IN THE FALL OF 1995, HSUS scientists joined with personnel from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to begin a deer immunoco

traception project on the NIST campus in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The 570-acre campus con

tains as many as 250 white
tailed deer. The deer do not pose a threat to the health or safety of NIST’s workers and visitors, and there is quite a

deep population.

The herd, numbering some 150 white tailed deer, tests the effects of PZP and the immunocontrac
tion. The deer population will be tracked through a series of pregnancy tests, and the immunocontrac
tion will be monitored through a series of pregnancy tests. The HSUS and NIST hope that immunoco

traception can gradually reduce the deer popula

tion, while se

xually

The wild horses on Nevada’s Nellis Air Force Base have been rounded up repeatedly over the last decade.

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Keiko: Halfway Home
Free Willy star begins a new life in Oregon

Keiko,” the whale whose plight in captivity was illuminated by the international hit film Free Willy, arrived safe and sound at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport, Oregon, on Sunday, January 7.

Four hundred reporters from around the world were waiting in the cold rain at the Newport Airport. The plane carrying the famous cetacean broke through the clouds at 2:49 p.m., two hours late, and taxied to a stop, met by a mixture of onlookers’ tears and cheers. Keiko’s twenty-hour journey was almost over.

The move had begun the previous night, and by all indications, it had gone smoothly right up until Keiko’s arrival in Newport. United Parcel Service (UPS), which donated the use of a Hercules C-130 cargo plane and its accompanying crew for Keiko’s journey, had requested that the plane take off at night, reasoning that the cool, dense nighttime air would facilitate the liftoff of the eighteen-ton “package” ever carried by a UPS plane. Keiko had been lifted by a crane, using a specially built sling, from a tank at the Reino Aventura marine park in Mexico City and lowered into a 27-foot-long, 7-foot-high, and 7-foot-wide transport tank. (The tank was refilled with water and ice at refueling stops in Monterrey, Mexico, and Phoenix, Arizona.)

At 1:40 p.m. Keiko’s transport tank left Reino Aventura on an eighteen-wheel flatbed truck. Thus began a twenty-mile route from the Newport Airport to the Oregon Coast Aquarium. Some had camped out since the previous night in order to secure prime viewing locations. Virtually every business in town displayed large “Welcome, Keiko” signs. One little girl, smiling broadly, though she was dripping wet and shivering, held high a handmade sign reading, “Welcome to our pod.”

David C. Phillips, executive director of Earth Island Institute and the Free Willy Foundation, notes that “Keiko has become a symbol for the plight of whales and dolphins around the world. We hope [his rehabilitation] will lead to the day when all marine mammals are free from all human exploitation.” Patricia A. Forkan, HSUS executive vice president, agrees, adding, “The HSUS will be the lead coordinator in establishing an institute that will develop a body of knowledge, experience, and scientific protocols to facilitate the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of captive and stranded whales and dolphins.” The state-of-the-art facility at the Oregon Coast Aquarium will be a center for such work.

The city of Newport and its surrounding communities deserve praise for the educational effort that preceded Keiko’s arrival in Oregon. Every child seemed to know Keiko’s story, from his capture near Iceland in 1979, to his less-than-satisfactory home in Mexico and the health problems his captivity had caused. The children lining Keiko’s route knew much more about Keiko, and marine mammals in general, than did most of the reporters present. They seemed to understand the risks involved in his transport and rehabilitation and truly felt the moment and understood its importance.

The move began at 1:40 p.m. The truck included a replacement chain for the first real receipt for her to sign. “No signature, no delivery,” joked Mr. Dordan. A crane then lifted Keiko out of his transport tank, over the aquarium wall, and into his new “halfway house,” filled with the first real seawater Keiko has swum in since his 1979 capture. The soft chants of thousands of children—“Keiko, Keiko, Keiko”—grew to a roar as Keiko cast misty spouts of condensed breath high into the night.

The “Keiko Express” crew, led by Mr. Phillips, seemed to anticipate brilliantly every potential trouble point in this move. Larry Cornell, D.V.M., Keiko’s head veterinarian, who accompanied him on the trip, observed that Keiko made the journey in great shape and with little stress, noting that the whale’s respiratory rate remained unchanged.

Keiko’s new pool, which cost $7.3 million to construct, measures 150 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 25 feet deep, nearly four times larger than the one he left in Mexico City. It holds two million gallons of cold, clean seawater pumped directly from Yaquina Bay. A separate 9-foot-deep pool, measuring 33 feet by 28 feet, allows for isolation during medical treatment. Reef-like rock work covers half the pool’s bottom, providing a rubbing surface, acoustic variety, and canyons and crannies for Keiko to explore. The water current in the pool can be altered to discourage repetitive, unidirectional swimming. Play jets installed in the pool bottom create a vertical water curtain, or air-bubble curtain. Two underwater viewing windows allow visitors and Keiko to check each other out. Curator of

UP FRONT

MARINE MAMMALS

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mammals Mike Glenn, who is responsible for Keiko's day-to-day care in Newport, has noticed that Keiko has been spending a lot of his free time since the move at the underwater viewing windows, sometimes singing out a specific person for a long time. "He's rarely seen people from an underwater vantage point before, so this was a real novelty for him. We knew he was people oriented, so we always hoped that the underwater viewing windows would provide him with this kind of stimulation.

Keiko has significant health problems that must be overcome before his return to the wild is possible. He has skin lesions at the base of his pectoral flippers and flukes, caused by a papillomavirus. He may have a compromised immune system. He has digestive problems, most likely caused or exacerbated by a limited diet. He has poor overall stimulation.

Each day he was more active and energetic than the day before. Considering his story every step of the way. Audiences found the world over were touched by the fictional story of Keiko: it was only a story. Dick Smothers and Lauren Shuler Donner, the producers, were determined to ensure the film's message was made, though according to Mr. Glenn, "He's not a movie." The tactics and tools of animal-proofing human environments and health concerns in working with wildlife, 112 pages, illus.

Pocket Guide to the Humane Control of Wildlife in Cities & Towns
The tactics and tools of animal-proofing human environments and health concerns in working with wildlife, 112 pages, illus.

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KEIKO
FREE WILLY

A tax-deductible, nonprofit organization, the Free Willy Foundation was organized by Mr. Phillips at the request of Warner Bros. studio and film producers Richard Donner and Lauren Shuler Donner (Free Willy). The board of the foundation includes The HSUS and the McCaw Foundation and is raising money through sales of Keiko adoption kits, Free Willy Foundation tiles (see page 11), and donations (to make a donation, make your check out to HSUS/FWF).

The Discovery Channel, one of the nation's five largest cable television networks, has begun production on Keiko's Story, a documentary of Keiko's rehabilitation. The piece is scheduled to air in early 1997. Discovery's senior vice president of programming, Clark Bunting, announced, "We're going to document this story every step of the way. Audiences around the world will be touched by the fictional elements in Free Willy. We're confident audiences will find fact just as compelling as fiction in the true-to-life story of Keiko.

Keiko is only halfway home. Now the burden falls upon us to take him, eventually, the rest of the way there.

-Mike Winkle, program coordinator, The HSUS's West Coast Regional Office
“Alternatives”: A Good Year
Safety-testing procedures are in transition

Nineteen ninety-five was a banner year for The HSUS in promoting alternatives to the traditional use of animals in safety testing. To be sure, animals continued to be used to gauge, however unluckily, the hopeful, the possible harmful effects— including eye and skin irritation, systemic poisoning, cancer, and birth defects—of chemicals on human beings. In the United States alone, several million animals are used annually in testing procedures. However, thanks to The HSUS, concerned consumers, progressive scientists and policymakers in industry, government, and academia, this situation is changing for the better.

Safety testing is in the midst of a transition, guided by the “Three Rs” of replacement, reduction, and refinement: replacing or reducing animal use in specific procedures and refining methods so that the animals experience less pain and suffering. Unfortunately, this transition has been frustratingly slow. What would it take to help transform this slow evolution into a high-speed revolution? The answers are several: a greater awareness and appreciation of the Three Rs approach, especially within industry and regulatory agencies; greater funding for research and development of alternative methods; a better vision to guide future efforts on alternatives; more timely assessments of whether proposed alternatives have been proven to be at least as good as the animal tests they are designed to replace (a process known as “validation”); and, finally, more guidance from regulatory agencies on how to validate an alternative method and gain its regulatory acceptance.

The HSUS actively pursued all five approaches in 1995. On November 17 Paul G. Irwin, HSUS vice president for Animal Research and Science, congratulated Russell and Burch Award winner Robert Van Buskirk, Ph.D., at the award ceremony, held in Washington, D.C. Irwin announced that the annual Russell and Burch Award is given to scientists who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of alternative scientific methods. In his speech Irwin called attention to the Three Rs approach and to reward scientists who devote their careers to its advancement. Named after William Russell and Rex Burch, who pioneered the Three Rs approach in the 1950s, the award carries a $5,000 prize made possible through the generosity of an HSUS benefactor. This year’s award was given to Prof. Van Buskirk for his development of innovative safety-testing methods that do not use animals. The widespread application of these methods has saved thousands of animal lives.

Earlier in the year, The HSUS and a corporate sponsor launched a funding program for the research and development of alternative testing methods. The program disbursed $100,000, funded by the Gillette Company, for projects to be conducted in 1996 involving the use of human cells or studies of human volunteers. (Tests using animals or animal cells have uncertain applicability to humans.) The first grant, awarded in early 1996, was to researchers at Case Western Reserve University developing a test for assessing skin irritation using biopsies from human volunteers.

Last spring Martin L. Stephens, Ph.D., HSUS vice president for Animal Research Issues, participated in a workshop, “The Three Rs: The Way Forward” convened to chart a course for alternative methods. The event was sponsored by the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods and brought together key figures from the alternatives community. The workshop was chaired by two past recipients of the Russell and Burch Award, Michael Balls, D.Phil., and Alan Goldberg, Ph.D., and was attended by key figures from the alternatives community. The workshop was chaired by two past recipients of the Russell and Burch Award, Michael Balls, D.Phil., and Alan Goldberg, Ph.D., and was attended by...
Mesers. Russell and Burch themselves.
published in the international journal Alternatives to Laboratory Animals. (Copies of the report and an abbreviated summary are available from The HSUS for $1.)

On November 15, 1995, The HSUS sponsored a workshop to discuss the outcome of a three-year assessment of alternatives to the Draize Eye-Irritancy Test (in which chemicals are tested in rabbits’ eyes). Representatives of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission, collectively known as the Interagency Regulatory Alternatives Group (IRAG), coordinated the assessment. The HSUS wants to see the quickest possible replacement of the Draize test, but unfortunately, the workshop revealed that efforts to validate Draize test alternatives are faltering. Ironically, the variability of Draize testing data is complicating efforts to replace this test. The IRAG assessment failed to address an important challenge put to IRAG early on: to identify a set of nonanimal methods that could at least replace the Draize test for the limited but significant purpose of detecting chemicals likely to be irritating to rabbits’ eyes. The HSUS is exploring ways to tackle these problems.

Regulatory agencies have been regarded historically as more of a hindrance to than a help in advancing alternative methods. IRAG’s initiative to assess alternatives to the Draize test was seen as a positive step away from this pattern. A more far-reaching activity has been the effort to draft official guidance on how to validate alternative tests and gain regulatory acceptance. Spurred by 1993 legislation, the National Institute of Environmental Health Science established the Interagency Coordinating Committee for the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM), comprising several key U.S. agencies. In November 1995 ICCVAM issued a draft document on validation and regulatory acceptance and sought outside comment. In December 1995 ICCVAM convened a meeting of experts on alternative testing methods to recommend improvements to the document. Dr. Stephens was the only representative from an animal-protection organization to participate in the meeting working groups. The HSUS believes that the document, if implemented diligently, will become a milestone in the U.S. effort to advance alternative methods.

The HSUS will continue to be at the forefront of efforts to promote alternative methods of safety testing until animals are no longer used as our unwitting surrogates.

**WILDLIFE**

Protection Close to Home
New suburban wildlife program launched

Eight out of every ten Americans live in what the federal government calls a standard metropolitan area. Some metropolitan areas are small, with perhaps fifty thousand people living in neighborhoods and communities; others, such as the Baltimore-Washington, D.C., area—larger than the state of Delaware—are huge. Such sprawling population centers were termed megapolises by the French geographer Jean Gottman in the 1950s, when describing the one giant “city” extending from Boston to Washington. A half century later, the West and Midwest now boast their own megapolises and share with the East Coast the frustrations and harmful consequences of unplanned, unchecked, and unorganized urban and suburban growth. Urban sprawl creates so many problems for people that it is easy to overlook its consequences to wildlife, not only when it encroaches on the animals’ homes and habitats, but also when the animals adapt to the modified environments we human beings impose upon them.

The HSUS has launched the first national program of suburban wildlife protection in an effort to address some of the highly complex issues associated with the suburban wildlife versus development dynamic. The new HSUS program is pursuing a wall of tribute at “Keiko’s” new home. Each sale helps to provide for Keiko’s care. Add a tile in your own name or in the name of someone special, as a unique gift!

**Order a beautiful, engraved terra-cotta tile to be placed on**

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**ITEM DESCRIPTION**

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**TOTAL**

**All orders must be prepaid; checks payable to The HSUS/FWF. You will receive confirmation of your order. Mail to: Free Willy Foundation, c/o The HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.**

American goldfinches enjoy a birdfeeder’s bounty under a dogwood tree. State conservation efforts must reflect the public’s interest in preserving songbird habitat.
three major issues in suburban wildlife protection. The first is the age-old issue of human-wildlife conflicts. The HSUS is already a leader in this field, holding widely acclaimed seminars throughout the United States since 1987. Material from the seminars has been summarized in the HSUS book Human Control of Wildlife in Cities and Towns (1991). Much remains to be done in our work of providing the public with accurate, comprehensive, and useful information. Beyond that, we face the enormous task of challenging state and local authorities to reassess traditional approaches in dealing with wildlife. Members of the general public are far more concerned with the conservation and habitat-protection of songbirds than of birds that are hunted. An enormous and antiquated state-level conservation apparatus has been focused until now on hunting, trapping, or otherwise exploiting animals; it must be refocused on the concerns of citizens in urban and suburban areas.

The second major issue our program is addressing is the intrinsic value of wildlife in our lives. Few would deny that our relationship to the land and the wildlife in it is an age-old challenge. A new HSUS program is designed tonow offer practical, humane solutions to many common problems. Coexisting happily with wildlife is an age-old challenge. A new HSUS program is designed to offer practical, humane solutions to many common problems.

Although a bee sting does not necessarily improve one’s life, having bee available to pollinate flowers certainly does.

Green, open space both for the benefit of people and wildlife. Will this country some day have to consider legislative mandates to ensure such protection for its citizens? These are the interlocking keystone s of the HSUS Suburban Wildlife Protection Program: to guarantee humane treatment of wildlife, to ensure that the positive and beneficial aspects of contact with wildlife are realized, and to focus on the fundamental values stemming from these contacts that are important elements of our lives and relationship with other living things. We must educate our children in these principles and provide them with opportunities to educate themselves through personal experience on the primacy of these values. Not a small component of this evolving program will be the needs, concerns, and interests of the public. Our goals are simple: to help wildlife and people live together in harmony in the suburbs, where people and wildlife most frequently meet; to foster an understanding of wildlife, and to instill a desire to live compassionately with the wildlife that means so much to us in our daily lives. Meeting those goals will be the challenge—John Hadidian, Ph.D., HSUS director, Suburban Wildlife Protection Program.

If global destinations that educate your mind, expand your cultural horizons, and enrich your spirit are calling you, join The HSUS on a “Journey of Awa reness.” Our ecotourism program is designed to provide you with new perspectives on animal protection, wildlife behavior, and cultures vastly different from our own.

All accommodations on our “Journeys” are carefully chosen to enhance your “eco” experience: A representative of The HSUS and a knowledgeable local guide will accompany you. All you need to do is relax and enjoy the excitement!

**August 6-10, 1996: Kenya Study Tour of the African Ecosystem**


**October 3-13, 1996: Malaysian Borneo, Land of Ancient Rain Forests and Cultures**

Explore Borneo’s amazing diversity of exotic vegetation and wildlife in the world’s oldest rain forests. Cruise down the Kinabatangan River, while elusive proboscis monkeys observe your progress from the surrounding treetops. Watch the entertaining antics of orangutans at the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Center. View the rain forest from the unique perspective of an aerial catwalk. Climb, if you wish, Mt. Kinabalu, Southeast Asia’s second-largest mountain. Discover the vibrant river city of Kuching and beautiful Bako National Park, with its spider monkeys and ring-tailed macaques. Price fully escorted from Los Angeles, $3,595. Optional extension to Singapore, Bali, and Komodo Island, to October 23, 1996, $2,195 additional.

For more information, call The HSUS “Journeys” desk at 1-800-223-6078, ext. 314, or (212) 765-4870, ext. 314.
According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, 57 million cats live in homes across the United States. With four paws to a cat and four or five claws to a paw, billions of cat claws are within scratching distance of furniture, rugs, draperies, clothing, and other household goods. Many cat owners, frustrated by their cat's propensity for scratching, banish the cat outdoors rather than subject valued furniture and possessions to damage. Others may give their cat away to friends, neighbors, or the local animal shelter. Some may even resort to having their cat declawed. Is scratching a battle between the cat's itch to scratch and a household's need to be preserved inevitable? Must you sacrifice couches, chairs, and rugs to the resident feline?

Thankfully, the answer is no. Although it takes work to deal with the natural feline desire to scratch, success stories are plentiful and include the cat, the claws, and the happy owner.

It's important for all cat owners to understand exactly what scratching means to a cat and to realize that it is a perfectly normal feline expression, rather than a personal attack. "Some cat owners may think that a cat who scratches is displaying unhappiness or restlessness," explains Melanie Adcock, D.V.M., HSUS director of Farm Animal Protection. "In reality, she is simply expressing a natural behavior, much like stretching, yawning, and grooming." Through scratching, a cat is conditioning claws, stretching front limbs, and marking
"Property." Some cats scratch as a way to say hello when their owner enters a room. No one really knows why some cats use this form of expression more frequently than do others. A cat may scratch once a day or ten times a day or prefer one type of surface to another, in any case, the cat is exhibiting a perfectly normal and natural behavior. The key to controlling a cat's scratching is not to focus on eliminating the behavior, but rather to redirect where the behavior is being exhibited. "Once the cat owner realizes that a cat needs to scratch and that a cat can be taught where to scratch, he or she is halfway down the road to solving the problem," Dr. Adcock says.

Just like dogs, cats need to be taught the rules of the house. To a cat entering a new household, all surfaces, including rugs, chairs, and sofas, look like potential (and inviting) scratching areas. Since scratching is as natural as rubbing up against furniture, a cat assumes both behaviors are equally acceptable. A cat needs to be taught where to scratch, and with proper teaching and training, these places will become preferable to other ones.

Naturalness notwithstanding, there are many times when it seems a cat's favorite scratching surface is that expensive couch in the living room. The first question you should ask may seem obvious: Does the cat have an alternate place to scratch, such as a scratching post or board. "Many cat owners who contact The HSUS with cat-scratching problems don't realize that their cat has to have someplace to scratch; by not providing a scratching post, any object in the owner's home is fair game," explains Janet Horreich, HSUS associate for Companion Animal Care.

Determine your cat's favorite scratching surface and scratching-post materials. Many cats are finicky not only about what they eat, but also about what and where they scratch. Some cats love to scratch wood but reject carpet, which is, ironically, the covering used for many commercially made scratching posts. Other cats prefer a tall and sturdy scratching surface that allows stretching of the entire body. Some cats prefer the scratching posts, made out of corrugated cardboard, that lie flat on the floor. Stool rope and the back of old carpet fragments are also enticing. (Using the carpet's pile side may confuse a cat who is discouraged from scratching carpet on the floors of the home.) Until a cat is given a satisfactory alternative, however, a sofa, chair, or rug may become the scratching object of choice.

Offer positive reinforcement for appropriate scratching and discourage scratching in areas that are off-limits. Once you determine the type of surface and structure your cat prefers, training can begin. You must be consistent (without consistency, training will be virtually impossible), you must be firm; and you must be supportive, providing plenty of praise for "correct" scratching. The preferred scratching place must be the most enticing— from the cat's perspective—in the entire house, the place where your cat sleeps, eats, or plays. Rubbing catnip on the post can help. Gently moving the cat's paws up and down the post in a scratching motion while offering praise is another positive method of training. (This is especially effective immediately after a cat has been sharpening claws on a favorite living-room piece.)

There are many ways you can discourage your cat from scratching your prized possessions. Temporarily placing aluminum foil, double-sided sticky tape, or inflated balloons in the contested areas can help deter a cat from scratching. Loosely covering ends of sofas or backs of chairs with cotton throws can also help. Other deterrents can include a spray from a water spritzer when your cat catches the cat in the act (or later). Simply moving furniture from a preferred suining or snoozing spot may make the piece less appealing.

Your cat doesn't know it, but scratching serves an important function—it removes the old and loose layers of claw and exposes the healthy new claw underneath. Regular clipping sessions will decrease the need for this claw upkeep. Clipped nails will make the cat easier to familiarize your cat with the process early on. By just touching and holding a cat's paws, you can acclimate your cat to such handling. By the time the cat is comfortable enough for claw trimming, it won't be such a struggle. After gently holding your cat's paws, offer a reward of a small treat or catnip. Once a cat is used to pass holding, clip just one claw at a sitting. Using human fingernail clippers or specialty designed cat-claw clippers found in pet supply stores, clip just the transparent tip from the claw. Be especially careful not to clip the quick of the nail, which is pink, this can cause bleeding. If this happens, use a styptic pencil to stop the bleeding. It's a good idea to clip claws when your cat is relaxed. Once one or more claws have been done, clipping comes more easily both to you, and you can clip both the front paws and the back paws in very little time. This ritual should be performed once a week.

Too often people lose patience with the clawing challenge and ask their veterinarian to declaw their cat. Unfortunately, the procedure is seen by many cat owners as routine. This is far from true. If you are considering declawing, you should be aware that the procedure involves surgery (called an amputation) in which the entire claw and end bone of each toe are amputated. It is a highly controversial operation whose physical and psychological effects are in dispute. Any surgical procedure presents risks, and declawing is no different. Think long and hard about whether such a procedure is really necessary for your cat. Have you made an effort to redirect scratching habits or is the surgery solely for your convenience? Cats should be given every chance to learn proper scratching habits. Declawing should be the very last option.

To a cat, claws aren't destructive. They are essential body parts, part of what makes a cat a cat. Cats who are brushing outside because their scratching can't be tolerated not only face outdoor dangers and live shorter lives, but they also spend less time bonding with their human companions. (Although The HSUS recommends that all cats live indoors, it is essential that declawed cats never be allowed outdoors.) By allowing your cat to keep those claws and by teaching proper scratching places, you will be truly accepting your cat as a marvelous creature, claws and all.
On Sunday, June 23, animal-protection advocates from throughout the world will converge on our nation’s capital for what promises to be the largest animal-protection event in history—the 1996 March for the Animals.

USE OF ANIMALS IN LABORATORIES

SCIENTIFIC AND ETHICAL ISSUES

E\n\n
few days after their consciousness, human beings have been struggling to understand themselves and their relationships with each other, with other living organisms, and with the world at large. A glance at a local newspaper or at the television news shows that, despite thousands of years of civilization and many unbridled achievements, human beings are not doing very well in this endeavor.

We are using up the finite resources of the planet at a rate almost as alarming as that at which we are irresponsibly polluting it. As our own numbers increase, other species become extinct, and in terms of human relationships, tyranny and oppression are still the order of the day in many parts of the world. The economic prosperity of the richer countries is too dependent on the sale of arms to poorer countries, where dictators use weapons against their own people instead of devoting scarce resources to producing food and providing housing, schools, and hospitals.

Against this rather depressing background, how can we expect there to be rational attitudes toward the use of animals in laboratories? At one end of the spectrum, there are those who say that all such use is unethical, because it inflicts upon the right of animals to freedom from pain, suffering, and exploitation. At the other end, there are those who say that scientists have the right to use animals in the search for answers to the questions they themselves deem to be important.

Two facts are indisputable. First, animals are used in laboratories because society is prepared to subject them to conditions and procedures that would be unacceptable for human beings. Second, the length and quality of our lives, and of those of many animals, have been enhanced by discoveries made in the past through animal experiments.

In my opinion, while philosophical arguments based on rights and freedoms may assist us in focusing on the right questions to ask when we wrestle with the inescapable dilemma and conflicts inherent in the use of animals in laboratories, I do not think they can provide the real-world answers. Whatever the ethics of the situation, many human beings are unable to exercise their rights—to stronger forces prevent them from doing so. Similarly, whether animals have rights or not, human beings are stronger than they are and can determine whether they will be used, and for what purposes. The key issue is not animal rights, but human responsibilities.

Animals are used in laboratories to increase fundamental understanding of the normal functioning of body systems, to study the increase in understanding of disease and to assist in the discovery of new drug treatments or to test chemicals and products of many kinds, as a means of protecting workers, consumers, patients, and the environment as a whole, and to help educate and train...
The Three Rs concept emphasizes that, whatever has been done in the past, the future should be different. We do not need to discredit animal experimentation undertaken in the past in order to secure its replacement in the future. It is crucial that we focus our attention on what are essential needs, for we do not need to seek to reduce, refine, or replace what is unnecessary in the first place. We should just insist that it cease.

We can proceed in a variety of ways. For example, we can reevaluate the rationale for using a particular animal procedure when alternative procedures are available. We can evaluate whether the purpose for which the animals are to be used can properly be considered essential. This requires making judgments, and many countries have set up systems for taking all the issues into account before deciding whether or not a particular program of work will be permitted.

I am in favor of systems that require those who wish to use animals to provide strong scientific justification for such use by weighing the likely benefit of the work against the likely suffering that the animals used would have to endure. If such systems were rigorously applied, there would be a dramatic reduction in the scale of animal experimentation in all parts of the world. We could then focus our attention on reducing, refining, and replacing animal use for the essential purposes that remain.

Meanwhile, the search for relevant and reliable replacement methods is accelerating, and the procedures applied to them, to diminish the amount of pain or distress suffered by animals in attempting to meet the essential needs of human beings and other animals.

This concept is now the basis of various laws and controls on animal experiments, and the Second World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences is to take place in the Netherlands in October 1996 to explore advances in this field.

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ANIMALS IN ENTERTAINMENT
DYING TO PERFORM

U sing animals to entertain humans is by no means a new phenomenon: spectacles staged in ancient Roman arenas pitted wild animals against each other or against human contestants. Crete developed the "gams" of bull jumping, or vaulting over a charging bull. Using animals for entertainment in some cases has traditional ties to ethnic or cultural groups and may be elevated to the level of an important ritual or spiritual event by participants. In other cases it is relatively new, limited only by the imagination of trainers and promoters.

Horse racing, greyhound racing, circus acts, bear dancing and wrestling, kangaroo boxing, whale and dolphin acts, elephant rides, doggy basketball, male diving, dancing chickens, pig racing, chimpanzee tea parties, rodeo events, pigeon shoots, dog-sled racing, bullfighting, traveling petting zoos, and raffles and raffles and raffles are examples of strength in numbers. Phony, fake machines, and the Internet make instant international communication possible. Every HSUS member can help to reform inhumane practices on an international scale by using the same means of communication legislators use.

Legislators around the globe worry about their image and their country's standing. Even though we cannot elect officials in Europe or Asia, we can make it clear that when we travel, buy goods, or organize our companies' meetings, we consider how animals are treated in the countries we visit.

We cannot afford to judge domestic issues in a vacuum. If we do, today's victory at home may turn out to be tomorrow's problem in another region of the world.

Betsy Drabben, Esq., is director of HSUS (Europe).

BY RICHARD PAPPANO
Instead of providing a point of view that fosters an understanding of and concern for what an animal is, animal acts reduce the animal to a fantasy figure or clown, far removed from any natural context. The message sent is that it is acceptable to abuse an animal for entertainment.

As society progresses toward the goal of being truly humane, and as it broadens its vision of how and when people and animals should interact, it looks at the traditional relationships between animals and humans in new ways. The practitioners and patterns of these interactions must change in light of new viewpoints or new understanding of the animals themselves. It is time for society to look at the business of animals in entertainment from such perspectives and end the abuses that typify it.

Richard Farina is director of the HSUS Captive Wildlife Protection Program.

EXTENDING THE CIRCLE OF RIGHTS

THE GREAT APE PROJECT

The Great Ape Project is based on a simple idea: that we should extend the basic rights of human beings to the larger group to which we belong— the great apes. Along with chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans, with whom we share more than 98 percent of our genetic makeup, human beings are great apes, too.

At this stage of history, we have come, by a long and often winding path, to the recognition that all human beings have such basic rights as a right to a life, a right not to be tortured, and a right not to be imprisoned without due process. We may not agree that these rights are absolute—for example, many people accept killing in wartime, and others support patient-requested euthanasia—but we do think that they apply in normal circumstances. The Great Ape Project embodies the idea that this recognition is not the end of the road, but just one more step along it. The next stage of the journey will, for the first time, cross the species barrier, and recognize the basic rights of some members of another species.

The Great Ape Project is based on a book with the same title I coedited, with Paula Cavalieri, published by St. Martin's Press. All contributors to the book, including Jane Goodall, Douglas Adams, Richard Dawkins, Francine Patterson, Roger and Deborah Fouts, James Rachels, Tom Regan, and Colin McGinn, subscribe to its Declaration on the Great Apes, which is a call for recognition of the rights I have mentioned. Since the book's publication in 1993, several other notable scientists and philosophers have subscribed to the declaration; they include Carl Sagan and Ami Druxman.

Some supporters of animal rights may question whether it is wise or defensible to ask for basic rights only for the great apes, rather than for all sentient beings. Readers of my book Animal Liberation (second edition, 1990) will ask if we have now shifted ground on this question because that book argues that we should accept that all animals are entitled to be treated according to basic principles of equality. I have not changed my view on this, but I am attracted by the possibility of extending the moral community beyond our own species—right now. The great apes are not only our closest relatives, but they are also beings who quite evidently possess many of the characteristics that we consider important in our own species. They form close and lasting attachments to others, show grief in circumstances in which we know similar emotions, engage in play, tell lies (through sign language when taught), solve complex problems, plan for the future, form political coalitions in order to ascend in the group's hierarchy, reciprocate favors, and become angry when someone for whom we have done a favor does not respond similarly when the occasion arises. Their intellectual abilities have been compared with those of human children between two and three years old, and their social bonds appear to be stronger and more lasting than we would
Since the summer of 1991, HSUS/HSI has provided funding and guidance for a rescue and release program for wild birds in Honduras (see the Fall 1994 HSUS News). This program, which grew out of our 1990 investigation into the capture and export from Honduras of birds for the pet trade, represents a historic collaboration between HSUS/HSI and the government of Honduras to stop this brutal trade and release confiscated parrots back into the wild.

In the course of this collaboration, the Honduran government passed a law that prohibited capture and trade of native birds, mammals, and reptiles, a key step in the protection of the natural heritage of the country. This action helped to bring a booming ecotourism trade to Honduras; it has benefited the Honduran people while protecting the wildlife.

In the first stages of the rehabilitation program, HSUS/HSI staff designed, built, and operated a bird-release center. The involvement, training, and development of a core group of concerned citizen volunteers was a major component of the effort, with the result that dedicated Honduran biologists, veterinarians, government agencies, and wildlife rehabilitation facilities have been cooperating in the management of a successful release center for four years.

The permanent rehabilitation facility is located in the city of La Ceiba, on the northwest coast of the country. Administered by the Cuero and Salado Rivers Refuge Foundation (FUCSA), a private Honduran organization, the Association for the Environment and Rehabilitation of Wild Birds (AMARAS) rescues and rehabilitates birds who are either brought to the center by local residents or confiscated by Honduran officials.

The center currently consists of a quarantine area for incoming birds, four large flight cages, a larger quarantine area, and caretakers' quarters. It is situated on the edge of a national park that includes Spectacular Picachito Bonito, a mountain that provides on its slopes and in the surrounding forest a home for monkeys, ocelots, jaguars, and myriad bird species. Many of the center's parrots have been released in this area, making it easier to observe the birds as they travel in and around the park.

The ultimate goal of this effort is the release into the wild of the program's birds, into the areas from which they come. Although the majority of the birds are parrots, AMARAS has also rescued sea-birds, raptors, toucans, and other birds and evaluates each patient's condition and progress toward the ultimate goal of release. Rehabilitation staff constantly monitors and evaluates each patient and keeps careful records near full rehabilitation. Staff constantly monitors and evaluates each patient and keeps careful records.
A toucan relearns how to fly in one of the four large flight cages constructed at the AMARAS center.

AMARAS has rescued toucans (right), sea-birds, raptors, and waterfowl. In each case, careful treatment of the bird is the first step toward the ultimate goal of release back into the wild.

CIRCUS ANIMALS' DAYS NUMBERED

Animal acts in circuses are a dying tradition in Australia, as local governments, urged on by HSI, place bans on such acts to perform. Circus animals suffer constant stress from relentless confinement in cages or on chains. They must endure temperature extremes, irregular feeding and watering, and lack of exercise. They become listless and prone to illness and may resort to self-mutilation in response to stress and boredom. These animals are trained to perform tricks that are unnatural and often painful and frightening.

In Australia local government councils manage local affairs, including regulation of animals. These councils are responsible for approving permits for circuses to operate in their locality. HSI has been successfully lobbying local councils in Australia to encourage them to ban circuses that use animals.

When HSI learns that a circus is scheduled to appear, we send a letter to each member of the local council outlining our concerns.

If the response from council members is not immediate and favorable, HSI alerts members and friends, urging them to write letters of protest. A petition to be signed and submitted to the local council is included in such mailings.

By pressing local councils and advancing community awareness, HSI will continue to work for an end to circus-animal exploitation in Australia.

A performing bear with the Moscow Circus goes on with the show.

HSI AUSTRALIA

Let the ambassador of Honduras (His Excellency Roberto Flores Bermudez, 3007 Tilden St., NW, Washington, DC 20008) know that you applaud the steps taken by the Honduran government to protect the country's native wildlife and urge its continued support for innovative programs such as AMARAS. -Richard Farinato, HSUS director. Captive Wildlife Protection Program
With 19 million acres of unparalleled splendor, Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is proof of America's determination to preserve its diminishing natural heritage. A pristine wilderness, the ANWR is inhabited by polar bears and grizzly bears, wolves, snow geese, nesting birds, and many other species of wildlife. The most biologically productive part of the refuge is the coastal plain, which provides important habitat for more than 200 species, but the ANWR also includes a complete range of arctic and subarctic ecosystems. Yet, since President Dwight D. Eisenhower first set aside this area for federal protection,
tection in 1960, the ANWR’s integrity has been threatened repeatedly. Federal lands such as the ANWR are critical to the survival of many species of wildlife. From the beginning of the European coloniza-
tion of the American continent, animals were hunted for food, pursued for the fur trade, and evicted from their homes when forests were cleared to provide timber and make room for farms and towns. Increasingly, habitat has disappeared and with it the wildife.

The setting aside of federal lands was a key to the restoration of America’s wild-
life, and these lands now provide a diversi-
ty of habitat and varying degrees of protec-
tion for wild species. National wildlife refuges, in particular, were established for that specific purpose. Unfortunately, wildlife refuges do not protect wildlife completely. Activities such as the oil drilling now being contemplated on the ANWR threaten the future of wildlife on many refuges.

The threat to the ANWR is not unprece-
dented. Less than 100 miles away lies Prud-
hoe Bay, where the discovery of oil fields led to the construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline. It is an ominous example of the devastation to wildlife that development can cause.

As the trans-Alaska pipeline was built, Prudhoe Bay quickly became industrial-
ized, with 500 miles of roads, 150 drilling pads, and numerous buildings and pump-
ing stations springing up practically over-
night. The resulting degradation has been extensive: 12,000 acres of wildlife habitat have been destroyed.

Alaska’s Department of Fish and Game has found that female caribou in the vicin-
ity of Prudhoe Bay/North Slope oil activities have fewer calves than those in undisturbed areas. Prudhoe Bay was once a calving area for the central Arctic caribou herd, but few caribou calves can be found there today. Scavengers populate all areas, and Arctic foxes have increased dramati-
cally around garbage dumps in the North Slope oil fields. These scavengers prey up on the eggs and chicks of rare seabirds. According to a 1988 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service report on the impact of oil fields on the North Slope and Prudhoe Bay, “Imp-
acts not predicted. . . .”

Another consequence of the trans-Alaska pipeline has been oil spills. Alaska’s De-
partment of Environmental Conservation reports that 100,098 gallons of petroleum products were spilled in the oil fields in 1993 and 24,968 in 1994. Studies reveal that a drop of fresh crude oil on the body of a mother bird can kill the embryo in an egg she has laid. Seabird, seal, and sea otter populations still have not recovered from the Exxon Valdez spill in 1989, another cat-
apoistic but unsurprising consequence of the construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline.

Thus, there is good reason to fear opening the ANWR to oil drilling. The coastal plain, the area most sought after by oil companies, is a critical calving area for its 160,000-member Porcupine River caribou herd, as well as the most important polar bear denning habitat on land in the United States.

Although some protection was afforded the ANWR in 1980, when the Alaska Na-
tional Interest Lands Conservation Act closed the ANWR to activities such as oil drilling, efforts to exploit the ANWR did not stop. In 1995 Congress proposed a bal-
anced budget bill that contained a provi-
sion for revenue from leasing the ANWR for oil drilling. This provision would have led the way for the ANWR to be opened to drilling. Fortunately, President Bill Clinton vetoed the bill and has vowed to veto any future budget bill that contained a similar provision regarding the ANWR.

There are various estimates regarding the amount of oil that could be extracted from the ANWR and how much money and how many jobs might be gained, but one thing is certain: oil development will irreparably destroy the ANWR’s wildlife.

properties; bring widespread pollution of air, water, and land; and devastate wild-
life populations.

Legislative and agency efforts are under way to exploit and destroy other public lands and the wildlife that inhabit them; to turn them over to private interests with no interest in wildlife protection; to waive, weaken, or eliminate the laws that limit their exploitation; and to remove funding for their maintenance.

Hunting on national wildlife refuges is now allowed if it would not conflict with a refuge's stated pur-
pose (such as providing a sanctuary and breeding ground for migratory birds). The HSUS believes this situation is inherently unsatisfactory, but a bill cur-
rently before Congress, H.R. 1675, would make hunting a primary purpose of the entire National Wildlife Refuge System. The bill would strip from the refuge system any vestige of sanctuary for beleaguered wildlife.

The National Park System also has been under attack recently by the so-called wise-
use movement and others who believe that the federal government should not control land. H.R. 266 would establish a commis-
sion to evaluate each area in the park system for possible closure. This bill also seeks to put state and local governments, rather than the federal government, in charge of parks. Often state and local governments are less concerned with the health of the lands and the wildlife they contain than they are with gaining greater public access to those lands for recreational or commercial purposes.

In the American West, meanwhile, live-
stock growers are threatening to take full control of public lands that now serve to protect wildlife, wild horses, and their habitat. Ranchers who graze cattle on pub-
lic lands pay the government a nominal sum for that privilege. In the past the gov-
ernment has attempted to raise these fees because of the devastation caused by over-
grazing. However, the recently introduced Public Rangeland Management Act, S. 852, would turn over management of graz-
ing on public lands to the livestock indus-
tory. It would require that public lands be managed to increase livestock produc-
tion on public lands to the livestock indus-
tory. It would require that public lands be
managed to increase livestock production to the exclusion of other uses, such as maintenance of wildlife habitat. Wild hors-
es and other wildlife would be excluded from traditional watering spots, causing extreme suffering as well as ecological damage to the water holes themselves.

Congress has set its sights on the ANWR, a land of spectacular beauty and pro-
jigious wildlife. If the ANWR were to be made available for oil drilling, it is certain that none of our public lands is safe and the future of our wildlife is uncertain.

Amy Weinhouse, Esq., is assistant trust coun-
t, the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust.
AGAINT NATURE: THE SENSITIVE PIG VERSUS THE HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT OF THE MODERN PIG FARM

A pig's powerful yet sensitive snout pokes through an opening in the door of a livestock truck. Some handlers smash piglets with their fists to prevent fighting. Every year, millions of pigs die on the journey to slaughter, At the time of writing, no legislation or enforcement practice.

A MENA IS ENJOYING a love affair with the pig! The pig's intelligence, charm, and zest for life have captivated readers of this timeless children's story Charlotte's Web, as well as moviegoers who saw 1995 Golden Globe-winner Babe.

Pigs are by nature both homely and loyal. Anecdotes abound to prove the point. "Priscilla," a pig from Texas, won an award for courageously risking her life to rescue a drowning boy. A brave sow in Massachusetts refused to stay safely outside her burning pen, instead scooping her skin and repeatedly running back into the fire to be with her piglets until they were moved to safety. "Susie" the pig would greet her human friend, Stan, every night on his return home from work. After Stan's death, Susie continued to search desperately for Stan whenever she heard his truck. "Peggy" learned how to sit on command, a skill that came in handy when her owners, a Florida couple, returned from vacation and retrieved her from the neighboring farm where she had been staying. The couple could only recognize her amidst the neighbors' piglets when she obeyed their command, "sit."

Those who know pigs can't help but be charmed by their intelligent, social, and sensitive nature. Yet perhaps no other species has been so misrepresented, misunderstood, and, even, betrayed. A glutton is labeled a "pig," a messy person is termed a "pig." The people caring for both Charles's Web's "Whin- bur" and his modern counterpart "Babe" love them one minute, yet intend to kill them and eat them for dinner the next. How can society be so insensitive—to centrifuged—forgets it finds the individual members of that species so adorable?
Touch and bodily contact are especially important. Pigs seek out and enjoy close contact and lie close together when resting. They also enjoy close contact with people familiar to them and will roll over to have their bellies rubbed.

Pigs are very vocal and communicate constantly with one another. More than twenty of their vocalizations have been identified. Pigs most often say “squeak” and will say “butterfly” when happy. They have an elaborate courtship ritual, including a song between males and females. Newborn piglets learn to run to their mother’s voice, and the mother pig sings to her young while nursing. After nursing, a piglet will sometimes face “Mom’s” face to rub snouts and grunt. Pigs also enjoy music.

When ready to give birth, the sow selects a clean, dry area apart from the group, sometimes walking several miles to search for a good nest site and to gather preferred bedding materials. She hollows out a depression in the ground and lines it with grass, straw, or other materials. For several days after her babies are born, she defends the nest against intruders. When her babies are five to ten days old, she encourages them to leave the nest to socialize with the other pigs.

Weaning occurs naturally at three months of age, but young pigs continue to live with their mothers in a close family group. Two or more sows and their babies usually join together in an extended family, with particularly close friendships developing between sows. Sow and piglets play with great enthusiasm, play-fighting and lifting, moving, or throwing objects into the air. Often one will stand perfectly still while the other runs about a pursuit. A piglet playing alone will whirl around and jump up and down in one spot.

MODERN MISERY

In contrast to this varied, active, stimulated environment that the existence of the pig raised in intensive confinement. In a completely enclosed building smaller than a football field, many as twelve thousand pigs are born, impregnated, fed and watered automatically, medicated, and fattened for slaughter.

Inside such buildings, factory-farmed sows spend their solitary lives in crates barely larger than their bodies, with concrete- or metal-slatted floors on which they cannot walk or even turn around. They are forced to eat, sleep, eliminate, give birth, and nurse their babies in the same tiny space. The sow, an extremely social and intelligent animal, is forced into isolation and prolonged stress. Unable to move about, she becomes chronically hungry. Instead of foraging naturally for a varied diet for six to seven hours a day, she is supplied a monotonous feed in such limited amounts that it is consumed in ten to twenty minutes. She must urinate and defecate where she stands.

Her strong maternal drive to prepare a nest is thwarted by the crate, the hard floor, and the lack of bedding. In her frustration the sow gnaws on the bars of her cage, stamps her feet, and futilely attempts to escape.

A week after baby pigs are born, they are injected with antibiotics. Their teeth are clipped, their ears notched, and their tails docked; the males are castrated. All procedures are performed without anesthesia. Normal interactions between mother and babies are prevented. The piglets are taken away at three weeks of age or younger, which causes them to develop abnormal sucking and nosing behaviors.

A pregnant sow’s feed is restricted to prevent her from becoming overweight during her forced inactivity. This leaves her chronically hungry. Instead of foraging naturally for a varied diet for six to seven hours a day, she is supplied a monotonous feed in such limited amounts that it is consumed in ten to twenty minutes. She must urinate and defecate where she stands. Her strong maternal drive to prepare a nest is thwarted by the crate, the hard floor, and the lack of bedding. In her frustration the sow gnaws on the bars of her cage, stamps her feet, and futilely attempts to escape.

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Not surprisingly, frustrated and isolated sows develop abnormal behaviors. Unable to escape, they display “mounting” behavior, sitting motionless for hours with heads hung low or pressed against the crate, ears drooping, eyes clamped shut.

The frustrated sow may also develop stereotypical behaviors—neurotic, compulsive movements such as intense and frequent biting of the bars of the crate. Such behaviors resemble chronic psychiatric disorders in humans. She escapes from this misery only when she becomes less “productive” and is sent to slaughter at two to three years of age. Pigs naturally live twelve to fifteen years. After being taken from their mothers, piglets are crowded into a series of barren pens, cages, sometimes stacked two or three high. Unusually, slippery concrete- or metal-slatted floors often trap their feet, cause lameness, and prevent them from avoiding their own waste. They receive as little as twelve minutes of human attention in a four-month period. The harshness of this dismally barren and overcrowded environment, compounded by starvation and deprivation of every natural desire, encourages tail biting and abnormal aggression from which victims cannot escape. Never having felt a human hand or felt sunshine on their faces, pigs are sent to slaughter at six months of age.

LAST JOURNEY

Every year eighty thousand pigs die on the journey to slaughter, victims of poor handling and transportation practices. They are exposed to disease, unfamiliar noises, motion, weather extremes, fatigue, and crowding in small quarters with unfamiliar pigs. Some handlers smash the snouts of pigs with an iron bar, a barbaric practice known as boshing, to prevent fighting.

More than $87 million is lost every year due to poor meat quality, a direct result of stress, fatigue, and injuries. These facts are not to be used to argue against the use of antibiotics. Antibiotics can be crucial in preventing the spread of disease and ensuring the health and safety of pigs and their handlers. However, it is important to recognize that antibiotics are not a solution to the underlying problems associated with factory farming. A sustainable solution to these problems requires a fundamental transformation of the pork industry, including improvements in housing, management, and care for pigs. This transformation is necessary to ensure the health and well-being of pigs and to address the complex challenges facing the pork industry.

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throats will be cut and they will be "bled" and submerged in a scalding vat. Improperly stunned pigs may suffer paralysis, with depressed consciousness prior to death. Very rarely, but at as young an age as ten days, escalated stress syndrome (a genetic disorder that results in the inability to move), and disease in general. Pigs face a future that includes weaning and respiratory disorders alone. At least 20 percent of factory-farmed pigs die in intensive husbandry systems. In the name of cheap food, factory farms continue to proliferate. They are profitable because of their size and level of automation and dependence on drug residues in food products and the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Despite the drugs and the specialized breeding, hundreds of millions of dollars are lost every year from porcine leg, foot, and respiratory disorders alone. At least 20 percent of factory-farmed pigs die in intensive husbandry systems. In the name of cheap food, factory farms continue to proliferate. They are profitable because of their size and level of automation and dependence on drug residues in food products and the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Many husbandry practices, such as the chaining and crating of pregnant sows, have already been outlawed in other countries. Profitable farming systems are currently available that allow pigs to be pigs. Across the United States, people are banding together to keep factory farms out of their communities. The consumer is demanding the right to choose, and farmers are produced and increasingly using compassion to guide these choices.

You can refuse to purchase products obtained from factory farms. If not labeled otherwise, animal products are likely to be from such systems.) Shop at natural food stores, food co-ops, and farmers' markets, where you are likely to find more humane and sustainable food choices. Remember the "Three Rs" when you shop or eat out: reduce your diet by purchasing only animal products obtained in more humane and sustainable ways; replace your consumption of animal products; and replace the meat in your diet with nonanimal foods. (All kinds of meat substitutes, including vegetarian protein, are readily available in stores and supermarkets. A growing variety of meat substitutes are currently available.

Hog producers claim that pigs wouldn't be as productive as they are if they weren't "content." This claim conveniently ignores the drugs, hormones, and other chemicals that are routinely given to intensively farmed pigs to combat disease and increase productivity. Ignored, too, is the fact that pigs have been selectively bred for their ability to grow and produce even under adverse conditions. In any case, use of drugs and hormones gives rise to consumers' concerns over drug residues in food products and the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

EARTH KIND, THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ARM OF THE HSUS, WORKS TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY AND ENDANGERED ECOSYSTEMS AND PROMOTE HUMANE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

Some of the many successes of the Alliance to Protect Russia's Forests (APRF) during its pilot year in 1995 were: (1) the permanent protection of millions of acres of crucial forest habitat in Russia; and (2) a rare, but potentially significant, step toward implementing its goal of protecting Russia's beautiful, wildlife-rich forest, known as the Taiga. The alliance served as host to a gathering of Russian and U.S. forest activists in Washington State. Given the present uncertain political situation in Russia, it is unlikely that government pronouncements—however well-intentioned—can save the Siberian tiger, the wolf, the sable, the reindeer, or other species that inhabit this vast and mysterious forest, now being eyed hungrily by multinational timber companies.

HSUS NEWS • Spring 1996

PROTECTING FORESTS

L ast October the Alliance to Save the Russian Taiga Forest took a small, but potentially significant, step toward implementing its goal of protecting Russia’s beautiful, wildlife-rich forest, known as the Taiga. The alliance served as host to a gathering of Russian and U.S. forest activists in Washington State. Given the present uncertain political situation in Russia, it is unlikely that government pronouncements—however well-intentioned—can save the Siberian tiger, the wolf, the sable, the reindeer, or other species that inhabit this vast and mysterious forest, now being eyed hungrily by multinational timber companies.

When all is said and done, what really works to truly protect forests and animals is sustained citizen grassroots pressure,” says Slava Slouzhivov, president of Earth Kind (Russia). “By getting local Russian forest activists together with Americans experienced in such issues, we think we can create a synergy that will result in the permanent protection of millions of acres of crucial forest habitat in Russia.”

The historic gathering of Russian and American activists proved to be an enormous success. Mr. Slouzhivov, joined by eighteen other Russians, spent three weeks in this country. Met and hosted by local activists, they were flown over vast and

The Northwest’s unprotected forests contain immense clear-cuts scarred by logging roads and punctuated by landslides into once-sparkling streams.
controversial expansions of Northwest forests by Project Lighthouse. The New-Mexico-based but internationally famous "environmental air force" is an all-volunteer corps of pilots whose free flights for decision makers have been a unique and powerful feature of every American forest-protection campaign in the past decade. The Russians and Americans have joined, visited sawmills and timber towns, examined clear-cut areas and national parks, and participated in conferences. They learned how similar they were in their mutual love for wildlife, despite differences in language, culture, and nationality.

Plans are under way for presentations to be made to Presidents Boris Yeltsin and Bill Clinton and for a follow-up meeting next year in Siberia. "We are excited about the new opportunities for wildlife protection in our planet's forests that this pioneering exchange has opened up," says Pat Rasmussen, executive director of the Taiga alliance. "We think that we are creating an effective counterweight to the industrial pressures that are threatening vast pristine stretches of the Russian forest."

"Ironically, the situation in [U.S.] Northwest forests is actually better than in Russia," says Brock Evans, co-chairman of the alliance, vice president of the National Audubon Society, and a long-time champion of forest protection. "A century ago most of our temperate Northwest rain forests were untouched, splendid habitat, just like the Russian Taiga. Unfortunately our 'superior technology' got to those forests before public awareness could stop it."

"Americans can be justly proud of the millions of acres of protected national parks and wilderness areas, the largest and strongest system of protected areas in the world. A flight on any of Project Lighthouse's planes, particularly over the Pacific Northwest states, shows all too painfully what has happened to those areas not given protection. They have become a more precious resource, a place of 'leisure','" said Mr. Evans. "We will never be able to save our Siberian tiger, who needs large tracts of unspoiled forest, unless we can control the appetite of Western and Asian timber companies and their technology."

Many Americans may have thought that the controversy over the remaining Pacific Northwest ancient forests was settled in 1993, when President Clinton announced a revolutionary new plan for liquidation of the millions of acres of federal holdings. "Of course," Dr. Evans said, "President Clinton realized that plant and animal species would not be threatened. Unfortunately, the 1994 congressional elections changed all that. The new Congress passed a law doubting the amount of timber allowed to be cut on federal forests across the country. Passage was accomplished through the use of an unusual legislative technique: a rider attached to a larger appropriations bill that dealt with unrelated issues such as foreign aid and earthquake relief."

"Pressured relentlessly by the timber industry and its allies in Congress, the Clinton administration is now being forced to permit the logging of hundreds of tracts of forests that have been set aside to protect crucial endangered species. Environmentalists are mounting an effort to repeal the 'logging without laws' rider and have so far enlisted the support of Rep. Elizabeth Furse of Oregon. Until the provision is repealed, the destruction is likely to continue. Knowing that U.S. environmental laws are now strong enough to prevent the kind of logging that would destroy species and pollute streams, the rider's congressional sponsors simply ignored these laws. A more, permitting further timber cutting only after government scientists had determined that plant and animal species would not be threatened."

"We plan to share our stories and pictures of clean-cuts, logging along streams, and eroded hillsides in the Northwest forests to spur Russians into action."

The Russians were most concerned by liquidation of American ancient forests on the steep Northwest coast. Russian law prohibits logging on slopes steeper than 30 degrees, but American technology permits logging on slopes of up to 80 degrees. "Importation of your supposedly superior American technology threatens our forests," said Anatoly Lebedev, from Vladivostok. "We will never be able to save our Siberian tiger, who needs large tracts of unspoiled forest, unless we can control the appetite of Western and Asian timber companies and their technology."

Many Americans may have thought that the controversy over the remaining Pacific Northwest ancient forests was settled in 1993, when President Clinton announced a revolutionary new plan for liquidation of the millions of acres of federal holdings. The president's Northwest Forest Plan, however, provided for continued logging in the prime tracts of big trees, with their unique and rare habitats, by 80 percent of
ADDRESSING A DILEMMA

With the United Nations (UN) acting as an honorary co-sponsor, EarthKind and the Earth Pledge Foundation, of New York City, held a conference on sustainable tourism in the Dominican Republic, November 29 through December 1, 1995. Framing the essential question of the conference, Ted Kheel, president of the Earth Pledge Foundation, asked, "How does tourism, the leading industry in the Caribbean region, continue its dynamic development while ensuring environmental sustainability?"

The theory of "sustainable use"—legalized killing in the name of conservation—provides government and wildlife officials with a convenient rationale for the systematic decimation, depletion, and destruction of endangered species. Animals in Peril is an eye-opening look at this problem and provides alternatives that can benefit communities, wildlife, and the environment.

Animals in Peril is available in a softcover edition from The HSUS (2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037) at a special price: $7.95 for HSUS members, $9.95 for nonmembers, including shipping and handling.


With so many animals living on the verge of extinction, why do governments all over the world routinely sanction the killing of endangered species? The theory of "sustainable use"—legalized killing in the name of conservation—provides government and wildlife officials with a convenient rationale for the systematic decimation, depletion, and destruction of endangered species. Animals in Peril is an eye-opening look at this problem and provides alternatives that can benefit communities, wildlife, and the environment.

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Animals in Peril
How "Sustainable Use" is Wiping Out the World's Wildlife
By HSI President John A. Hoyt

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"My Pet TV" network debuts in fall

People who care about animals are about to have their own television channel! Nightwing Entertainment Group, in a strategic alliance with The HSUS, will launch “My Pet Television Network” in September. The channel will offer informative, educational, and entertaining coverage of a wide range of animal issues, with a special emphasis on the needs of animals in times of disaster.

To find out how to order “My Pet TV,” call (866) 225-1334, or write to CBE, Ranch House, Plaza 2, PO Box 100, Ashland, OR 97520.

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This year's national conference will be a celebration of the humane movement over the last quarter century and a look toward its future. The conference will also pay tribute to the twenty-five-year career and accomplishments of John A. Hoyt, The HSUS's chief executive.

We will be honored to welcome as our James Herriot Award recipient and keynote speaker Maurice Strong, chairman of the Earth Council (Toronto, Canada) and secretary-general of the 1992 Earth Summit. We will welcome, too, special friends, leaders of the animal-protection movement here and abroad.

Please plan now to attend. More details will appear in the Summer HSUS News.

October 17 to 19, 1996, ANA Hotel, Washington, D.C.