

# WE ARE THEIR ONLY HOPE

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AN ESSAY BY KAREN BORCH

*Americans spend close to 50 billion dollars a year on their companion animals. The love and devotion extended to these companion animals is admirable. Many of them are rescue animals who were adopted and were fortunate enough to find loving homes. Most animals on this planet are not so lucky. Those of us who are devoted to all the animals in our care need to expand our circle of compassion. We need to become stewards and become involved with, and show the same devotion to all of creation. There are millions of animals in the world who suffer needlessly their entire lives. Most of them are caught in a vicious cycle of abuse. They need our help and involvement by direct action, contributions of time and energy, and our commitment to try to lessen their suffering in any way we can.*

There is something profane about condoning, promoting or committing violence and brutality against animals. There are strong belief systems worldwide, that embrace the philosophy that animals are just products, sources of cheap food, goods, or money making machines for entertainment. A common and inappropriate response from people who embrace this disgraceful ideology is, to react to a call for compassion, and changes in our purchasing habits and diets, with; *ridicule, disdain, hostility, scoffing, and even laughter*. Such callous responses are incomprehensible and irrational, not to mention, perplexing. They fail to recognize that animal welfare is an immensely serious issue. It speaks volumes about our fundamental unwillingness to acknowledge the terror and the pain of other living beings, purely for our benefit, and how we are not open to change.

Considering there are seven billion people on the earth, and that every year fifty-five billion land animals are slaughtered for meat, world-wide, it is imperative that we seriously consider the carbon footprint of the food we consume. Most people are unaware that **the leading cause of global warming is animal agriculture, more than is produced by all the vehicles in the world.** (See *Livestock's Long Shadow: Environmental Issues and Options*). For additional shocking statistics on the enormous degradation to the planet, go to this website. (See *Global Warning!* [www.idausa.org](http://www.idausa.org))

Even in the face of a huge growing body of knowledge regarding heinous animal cruelty in industries exploiting animals for profit, change is painfully slow. Improvements to reduce or stop heinous animal suffering are regularly blocked by powerful politicians backed by obscene amounts of money from these industries not to implement any changes at all.

Although a few universities in America offer courses in animal law in their Law Schools, it should be taught in every law school in the country, and indeed, every law school in the rest of the world. Civilized societies everywhere have the obligation to honor the animals in their midst by protecting them. Because animal cruelty laws in place are actually being enforced in many cases, the incidence of animal cruelty court cases is becoming more common. Also, many cities have animal cruelty officers or animal cops who deal with animal cruelty every day, but the overwhelming need far exceeds their numbers. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal\\_Cops](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal_Cops)). In spite of, thousands of films, websites, and exhaustive research, exposing the plight of billions of animals worldwide, and in spite of an awareness beginning to develop, the indifference abounds. These animals are living desperate lives, and yet regardless of the facts, once people become aware, they often dismiss this world crisis and are *unwavering in their convictions, living blissfully in a climate of unmitigated denial*. There is something morally repugnant when people are willing to pay others to abuse, and slaughter animals so they can eat them, because they are absolutely unwilling to slaughter animals themselves. Doesn't everyone know where lamb chops come from? Isn't it disingenuous if you can't slaughter, skin and dismember an innocent baby lamb crying for its' mother, yourself? Then, in my judgment, you can't have that lamb chop.

Animal atrocities continue to exist because there is an acceptance of the intolerable. Animal suffering ordinarily, is not questioned, because it has become a cultural norm, instead of compassion being the norm. Refusing to recognize the enormity of rampant worldwide animal suffering is the norm because then people can continue to live a sanitized life and make no changes in their buying habits or diets. However, I believe without question, this makes them culpable.

An exception to this fierce resistance to consider animal welfare is that sometimes, overnight, people will change to a plant based diet, not because they have any concern or care about animal cruelty, but because they had; a serious heart attack, a debilitating stroke, developed diabetes, or some type of cancer and suddenly are faced with their own mortality. They simply don't want to die.

A remarkable fact about Loma Linda, California is that people live longer there than anyplace on the planet. The majority of the population there are Seventh Day Adventists who adhere to a strict plant based diet as part of their religious beliefs. Heavily researched by the scientific community for decades worldwide, their plant based diet has had a dramatic effect on their longevity. (<http://www.worldlifeexpectancy.com/what-adventists-mean-to-you> )

In a perfect world, people would be outraged over any product or service that was the result of cruelty or suffering of any living being. Most people would not knowingly support and purchase goods, foods, or products from corporations, that made a profit from exploitation, cruelty and suffering of innocent human beings, like blood diamonds for example. Most people will remember that when the public found out that young children were forced to work in factories for twelve hours a day, making Nike sneakers, under deplorable conditions, the reaction was an immediate public outcry. That outrage and effective boycotts that followed, put a stop to the practice. The media exposure was extensive and the Nike Corporation had to conform to the conscience and moral values of the market or lose billions.

The purchasing power each of us has as consumers is powerful and effective. In this high tech age, it is easy and inexpensive to take action and use the internet to; post blogs, emails, tweets, and use Facebook to get the media and cable talk show hosts involved in issues you believe in passionately.

Years ago there was no such thing as dolphin free tuna. Dolphins, seals, albatross, huge sea turtles, and other sea creatures were routinely caught up in tuna nets and strangled or ground up alive, because the tuna fishermen had no use for them. That industry finally bowed to public outcry, extensive media involvement, films that were distributed of the carnage, and finally they invested in dolphin safe nets. Although there still are egregious violations in this industry, it was a victory of sorts. However, there are still other atrocities committed against marine wildlife including; **commercial fishing, shark poaching and finning, seal hunting, and whaling**, to name a few, and the use of hideous driftnets. These violations are hard to stop, especially in international waters. (For an in depth account of these ongoing crimes, check out the heroic efforts of Captain Paul Watson, his crew, and the thousands upon thousands who support him worldwide, at <http://www.seashepherd.org/>)

Another effective public outcry was against the fur industry. When the media, and animal rights groups exposed the shocking conditions involved in that industry, and photographs, films, and statistics were given wide exposure, an extraordinary backlash occurred. There was a vehement public outcry. When the truth became known about the unspeakable horrors of the sinister fur industries, people recoiled in disgust. That industry suffered a huge financial loss in the United States, with the exception of some Northern states, especially Alaska. What developed was a stigma against wearing the fur of a dead animal that had suffered so much. Those who continued to wear fur were walking advertisements of callousness and it became generally, socially unacceptable, a statement to all who see you that you condone animal cruelty. This dramatic reaction to the cruelty of wearing fur can be compared to, finally a public acceptance that smoking is bad for you. It causes cancer, you could die from it, it definitely is not cool or sexy, and many find it downright, disgusting. That change in public perception regarding smoking was due to prolific media campaigns, scientific evidence, tobacco ads not appearing on TV or in the media, and explicit warnings against the use of tobacco as a deadly substance, and it worked. Likewise, it is rare in America to see women flaunting their fur coats anymore, because people look at them with disdain. As it was with smoking, being glamorous and sexy, the growing outrage against animal cruelty in the fur industries is slowly becoming a new acceptable cultural norm in America.

Sadly, wildlife seems to be exempt to this media trend because tragically, the pelts of millions of wild animals that are hunted in America are sold to foreign markets for their products. The shocking truth is that the fur of many of these beautiful American wild animals end up as coats sold in air conditioned malls in Dubai. It is unfathomable that in such a warm climate, people need fur coats. The obscenity is, they don't. Those fur coats are a mere status symbol and that is pathetic. There has to be more effective critical media exposure against the considerable callousness and brutality in hunting wildlife. The despicable use of steel leg hold traps, snares, and the cruelties of bow hunting, must be exposed. The reckless indifference of wildlife officials needs to be challenged. They need to monitor hunters who maim animals when they run off to die slowly by bleeding to death, starving or becoming helpless prey for other animals. There needs to be stiff penalties for poaching and other crimes against wildlife. The officials who do not enforce laws and the hunters with no moral conscience must be held accountable. There must be heavy fines and no licenses issued to these serial abusers in our forests. Until the public becomes aware of this violence, nothing will change.

Another real change that was readily accepted and changed buying habits of the public, was the exposure of the atrocious tests on animals in those industries that manufacture; soaps, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, chemicals, household

and products. The dark secret of the bloody and painful tests done on innocent animals that caused great bodily harm, blindness and even death, stunned the public. There was strong and immediate response to this unnecessary testing and the boycotts worked, **so it does matter when we speak up**. It is very effective and those companies will conform or lose their markets. In general, sales increase across the board whenever there is a label stating, not tested on animals, so stopping this horrid practice has become an asset and provides increased profits. For a comprehensive list of companies who still condone cruelty against animals in these industries, check, ([www.peta.org/issues/Animals-Used.../product-testing-toxic-tragic.aspx](http://www.peta.org/issues/Animals-Used.../product-testing-toxic-tragic.aspx))

An incomprehensible reaction to animal abuse, that is standard in the media, **is their reluctance to expose the**

**horrors of routine animal suffering for profit**. No videos of horrific factory farms, feed lots, and slaughter houses, the fur industries, bull fighting, heinous hunting practices, etc., will ever be seen on the evening news. When the Chinese dog and cat fur industry was exposed a few years ago on evening TV, showing a clip of a beautiful German shepherd being skinned alive, while he was wagging his tail, the public was horrified and the criticism was **immediate against the TV station to censor such videos**. It did not result in a deluge of negative responses against China or those companies who bought and sold those dog and cat fur coats. Is this because we are moral cowards where animals are concerned? Why do we care about some animals and not others? Why do we care about some forms of cruelty and not others?

Not until people find it reprehensible to condone any and all forms of animal abuse, will these powerful beliefs be challenged. Those making obscene amounts of money from animal suffering and exploitation, routinely and vehemently challenge the veracity of the factual evidence.

They ignore the public outcry, because conveniently, they won't have to justify the deplorable brutality, and greed wins out.

Try to book a guided tour through a factory farm for cattle, pigs, turkeys, or chickens, or maybe a guided tour to your local slaughter house just to see their operation and perhaps take some photographs. Not in a million years, would anyone be allowed to view the appalling and shocking treatment of living beings in these institutionalized houses of horror. Those corporations protect their privacy with a fierce secrecy. That is why they are located outside of cities and towns with heavy security. If one tried to get in just to observe, it would be like trying to break into The United States Bullion Depository at Fort Knox. No visitors are permitted, and no exceptions are made. They do not want the general public to become aware of the atrocities committed there and will jealously guard against anyone being a witness to their crimes against sentient beings.

Their status quo is therefore preserved at the cost of horrendous misery for animals. Generally, the response to a genuine attempt to even have a discussion with people who are woefully ignorant of the pervasive violence against other living beings, is that *they feign being so sensitive, so genteel, and emotional, that they simply cannot bear to be exposed to anything so gruesome, like it was pornography or a snuff film*. **It is always a very effective standoff and a very effective way to tell devoted animal stewards to just shut up**. Their perception of animal stewards is disingenuous to say the least. It is predicated on the ignorant notion that, those who find the treatment of animals abhorrent and detestable, are all; left

*"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."*  
—Edmund Burke, 18th Century British Statesman

wingers, extremists, tree huggers, sappy environmentalists, politically radical, vegetarians, global warming believers, social justice advocates, supporters of women's rights, gay rights, animal rights, and people who; exaggerate, love to march in demonstrations, are eccentric, prejudiced, opinionated, and most definitely, self-righteous. Nothing could be further from the truth. Animal advocates can be found everywhere in all strata of society. People, who love, honor and want to protect animals by eliminating animal cruelty cut across all ages and all walks of life. They have different educational credentials, religions, come from different political parties, and are both men and women, world-wide. They represent all cultures, countries and nationalities. For the record, collectively they do find it morally repugnant to blindly accept **as a norm** that we can, without conscience, treat animals with callous disregard, and absolute impunity. Animal stewards also have another thing in common, the message from society to them, the unwritten law is, *to always walk on eggshells*, keep your opinions about animals to yourselves, don't ruin our meal or our Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner, and don't offend us or make us nauseated because we don't want to hear about that drivel. We maintain our right to censor any information regarding animal cruelty because it is just plain offensive, and, "why aren't you people concerned about starving children who are enslaved?" (*A common remark to diminish the speaker and immediately change the subject.*) The logical answer is always "why can't we care about both?" Is there a shortage of compassion poured into each person at birth, so if you use it up on animals, surely you cannot care about suffering children?

*"If slaughter houses had glass walls, everyone in the world would be a vegetarian"*  
—Sir Paul McCartney

Those who want to silence animal stewards need a wake-up call. Silence about animals in peril has no merit. In fact, it is disgraceful and pure complicity, and it is patently absurd to write off this epidemic of animal cruelty as insignificant. If we stay silent it dishonors us as caring human beings. Compassion for animals should *be who we are*, in the deepest part of our souls. Animal stewards need to appeal passionately to those who are courageous enough to listen when they hear about these atrocities, and not be intimidated by adversarial responses by remaining silent. It is my deep conviction that the main reason people are so determined not to become knowledgeable about the gruesome truth of animal cruelty, is because, *then they will have no excuses and they will have to make some serious changes in their lives, because, now, they know.* Some will never cross over, but those who do will find their lives significantly better. Somehow that awesome silence must be confronted.

*"The awesome hypocrisy of silence allows the carnage to continue."*

No more walking on egg shells to accommodate people, whom I am convinced, would be horrified, shocked, dismayed, ashamed and angered if they knew the magnitude of this malicious and despicable treatment of other living beings on this earth. Why should they be shielded from the truth anymore? Like Ann Frank, I believe most people are basically good, so my premise is, if animal stewards are serious about this struggle, they will break through this deceitful wall of silence.

It is sacred commitment and a real calling, to inform the public with great clarity about this world crisis regarding animal atrocities, by exposing those responsible. One may wonder why animal advocates are so dedicated and motivated to changing the world view that animal suffering is of no consequence. Do they have a different DNA or are they just naïve or they have nothing else to do with their time? The truth is that animal advocates are in a constant state of grief

over the atrocities and they feel helpless to change things. It is hard to have hope and keep walking in the light, but whenever there is a breakthrough and a success for animal welfare is achieved, it is like raindrops on your face, or finally the sun breaking through the clouds. It takes great love and dedication for animal stewards to keep up the good fight only to be faced with the constant and very confrontational intellectual gymnastics, defensiveness, and semantic arguments that serve no purpose. The only intent in such a response is to discredit the speaker and refute, at all costs, what is being said. When people cannot justify the callous indifference that allows them to accept animal cruelty as insignificant, the conversation is usually over. Does anyone have the right to inflict the grievous, unspeakable animal cruelty that exists worldwide, with impunity? To keep up that indefensible argument, which serves no purpose; can people continue to claim they are not culpable and don't have to feel remorse?

*Reverence  
for all animal  
life should be an  
acceptable norm  
and not a radical  
idea.*

Most people are appalled at the institutionalized cruelty that appears to be acceptable, but they don't take the next step. If we have advanced at all as human beings, we must consider violations against our animal brethren as completely unacceptable. Are we not all responsible when any animal suffers? We must continue to fight against the deceit, the falsehoods, outright lies and abundant disinformation from those who find it acceptable to abuse, torture and kill animals with impunity, just to make a buck. This comprehensive across-the-board deception and absurd distortions must always be confronted. The disgraceful denials of egregious animal cruelty are an affront to caring and compassionate people everywhere.

We must continue to fight against all forms of animal abuse, and *act as though it already was an accepted standard in polite society to question animal suffering*. All life has meaning and has value. The so called collective acceptance of animal abuse just for a tasty meal, a coat, some cosmetics, jewelry, leather coats, sofas or purses, is an abomination. If we accept that all life is precious, does it not seem honorable that we should treasure such lives? What kind of person commits or condones this brutality?

Moral and spiritual maturity comes from recognizing the gift that animals are to us in so many facets of our lives. Ignoring their plight in any guise means we do not recognize their significance, and we do not recognize the magnificent capacity they have to enrich our lives. Perhaps it is exceptional or rare to care this much? I don't think so. I think we all have the divine capacity to be endlessly compassionate. It is incomprehensible that anyone could condone or approve of such widespread, unconscionable, cruelty. Such a kind and gentle world is almost unimaginable, but certainly a worthwhile goal.

People of good will need to know; that geese are being violently force fed to make goose liver pate from their enlarged and diseased livers, ( Foie Gras), that baby pigs routinely have their teeth pulled out by pliers, tails docked and are castrated with no anesthetic, that there is an annual fiery festival in Spain where hot tar is poured on a bull's head and he is set on fire while he runs frantically through the streets surrounded by cheering crowds, until the tar burns into his brain and causes a gruesome slow death. Those who claim compassion for animals should also know about the worldwide grisly treatment of male chicks. These newborns are ground up alive, electrocuted, or thrown into trashcans where they slowly suffocate on top of one another, because they have no value as broilers and can't lay eggs.(Last year 250 million male chicks in America, were massacred in this appalling and truly evil manner.) Those people who love

fur coats should be obligated to watch beautiful fur bearing animals being anally electrocuted, suffocated, gassed, or poisoned, so there are no marks on their bodies for the coats. People who self-identify as so called “sensitive people,” do not want to hear about; baby seals being bludgeoned to death for fur coats in front of their terrified mothers, the annual frenzied, brutal massacre of hundreds of pilot whales in the Faroe islands, the horrific dens of disease called puppy mills, sharks having their fins and tails sliced off only to be dumped into the sea to starve and drown, appalling information and videos of the slow and cowardly ritual slaughter of bulls in the ring, whales being harpooned which takes hours to die a slow and horribly painful death from grievous wounds and blood loss, animals in labs who suffer the most heinous experiments, most of which cannot be extrapolated to humans, military experiments on live goats, pigs and dogs that involve being set on fire, shot, and legs cut off with shears,(See the video on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), by Academy award winner, director, and former U.S. Army veteran, Oliver Stone, who exposes this, “Horrific Military Training”). American horses are repeatedly stabbed in their necks to paralyze them, not kill them, in Mexican slaughter plants, then disemboweled and skinned while conscious, because of the reckless mismanagement of the Bureau of Land Management to round up the remaining wild horses in this country for foreign meat markets, (*against the will of the majority of Americans*).

The American public also needs to know that 100 million dollars of your taxpayer dollars are spent annually to poison our wildlife on public lands with sodium cyanide, which is delivered by a trip wire, and which is also a hideous and painful way to die. (<http://www.nrdc.org/wildlife/animals/wolves/predatorcontrol.asp>)

People who buy cheap fur need to know that much of that fur comes from cats and dogs from China, after they are hung to death, but many are skinned alive. Then the fur is mislabeled as rabbit, or unknown origin, so it can be exported to America and Europe. (Dog and cat meat in China is considered to be better tasting and more tender if they are beaten and die a slow death.)

I wonder if “sensitive,” people care if the meat they eat, or the milk they drink is the result of enormous unspeakable animal suffering? A cow’s normal life span is 30 years, just like a chicken in the wild, and all chickens used to be able to fly and they roosted in trees at night. Cows are lucky to last 3 years on a factory farm, and broiler chickens are slaughtered at 6-12 weeks. (Egg laying hens are forced to lay 250 eggs a year instead of a normal free roaming hen who lays 25-30 a year.) Factory farm hens all suffer from severe osteoporosis, often uterine prolapse from constant egg-laying and most have respiratory illnesses from ammonia fumes. They are so spent, used up and diminished, health-wise, they don’t last more than a year before they are slaughtered, nine billion a year in this country. Turkeys are genetically bred to develop enormous chests so they have more white meat, and by the time the half billion are slaughtered annually, they are so overweight and crippled, they can barely walk and they are in constant pain. Male turkeys are kept in the dark and milked for their semen once or twice a week. Females are clamped into metal forceps upside down and inseminated, twice a week. All poultry are debeaked with a hot blade at birth, their toes are clipped causing chronic pain, interfering with eating, drinking, preening, mating, and nesting. All male turkeys have their snoods sliced off which is excruciating painful. In the wild, turkeys all can fly up to a speed of 55 miles per hour. How sad is that? Turkeys have strong family bonds, amazing mating rituals and elaborate dances and all this is brutally diminished and eliminated because humans do not respect or revere animals.

**For the record, all farm animals are considered livestock and no animal welfare laws protect them against institutionalized animal cruelty. No one can be prosecuted for; torturing, engaging in bestiality, maiming, beating, starving, not providing water, or veterinary care of any animal considered livestock.**

Deliberate and devastating animal cruelty is part of a worldwide institutionalized ideology, promulgated by industries that make huge profits from this misery, based on their conviction that, *cruelty is acceptable* to most people. Indeed, their very livelihood depends on their devious propaganda. The public has been duped and these malevolent industries are laughing all the way to the bank.

I hear often that it doesn't matter to the animals. People play the air violin, indicating their sarcasm, or contempt, or making a mockery and belittling what animal stewards are attempting to share, and the comments regarding animals are shocking. "They can't think and use reason or make logical comparisons. They don't even talk, they aren't intelligent, they don't feel pain, and anxiety, like we do, and hence we can treat them any way we want, etc., etc."

Granted, a cow will never write a best-selling novel, a chimpanzee won't get a Nobel Peace Prize, a pig won't invent a cure for cancer, nor will a goat compose a symphony, but does that justify; depriving animals of a safe environment, the freedom to move, sunshine and fresh air, taking them away from their families, forcing them to be on drugs, antibiotics and hormones their entire lives, making them endure painful mutilations without anesthetics, and ending their short lives by excruciatingly painful slaughter techniques that often don't work, *so many are fully conscious when; they are immersed in boiling water, have their throats slit, limbs cut off, or are disemboweled?*

How intelligent or competent do animals have to be before they are afforded humane care and treatment? What about chimpanzees who have learned sign language and know how to communicate with humans? Are they exempt from brutality because we can have conversations with them? What if a chimp said no to painful medical experiments, or leaving her cell and having her baby taken away?

As if it isn't bad enough that indifference to animal suffering abounds during their short, wretched, lives it is an acknowledged fact, that animals do feel pain as intensely as humans, they do suffer from depression, loneliness, intense fear, and many develop neurotic and psychotic behavior from our contemptible treatment of them.

We must not condone worldwide animal suffering as an acceptable norm, and we must respond to it, as morally reprehensible and unacceptable. Egregious animal cruelty is unprecedented and it continues unabated. The conspiracy of silence is dominant and it is part and parcel of our entire social system. I believe we know in our hearts this is wrong, and we need to step up to the plate and; strongly condemn these atrocities, make no purchases that support animal suffering, and consider celebrating your own life, health, and longevity by moving towards a plant-based diet.

It should be a moral imperative to cherish this earth and all its' living creatures. Somewhere within the human spirit there must exist a caring heart and a conscience that recoils in disgust, shock and horror over the reprehensible animal cruelty the world over. We are the recipients of the boundless joy animals bring to us, and they deserve, without question, our endless compassion.

Making a commitment to nurture and protect the other living beings we share our planet with, is a powerful, liberating, and honorable decision. It shows great strength of character, in a world that is, for all intents and purposes, hostile to animal suffering. It is only right that we cherish and protect them. Animals are part of this world and part of

life. It takes great integrity and courage to speak out against the horrors that have been under wraps for too long. Animal stewardship requires an unwavering commitment to embrace, promote, and encourage any and all initiatives that seek to lessen or eliminate animal suffering. Recognizing our sacred relationship with other living beings must become the new norm. Being outraged on behalf these crimes against animals, must inspire us to action.

Remember, the animals have no voice. We are all interconnected, and we are their only voice, their only hope.

Only when societies acknowledge the widespread and reckless disregard for the precious creatures we share this planet with and honor *the sanctity of all life*, will we grow in spirit and advance as a population with common decency as a core value.

— *End* —

# THE POWER OF GLOBAL NETWORKING FOR ANIMALS

There is a growing trend across the world to recognize the immense scale and extent of animal suffering in; animal agriculture, laboratories, entertainment, hunting, etc., and that it is indeed, an ethical issue. Although this awareness and subsequent actions to make necessary improvements are not yet universal, the world is slowly evolving towards a more compassionate belief system regarding our animal brethren.

All of these organizations listed need funding, and donations, but many also need volunteers, interns, food, veterinary supplies, help with fund raising, and marketing. Instead of taking an ocean cruise, or languishing away on a beach in the Bahamas or the French Riviera, consider contacting one of these organizations anywhere in the world and offering your expertise or to be a volunteer for your vacation so you can make a real contribution to our suffering animals. It will warm your soul and your spirit will soar, knowing you are making a difference. If you consider yourself an animal steward and a compassionate person, check out these websites and make your own conclusions. If you feel so inclined, speak out against these atrocities and email your friends or blog about these acts of violence against sentient beings. There is something desperately wrong with the human spirit when brutality against animals is tolerated as entertainment or a culturally acceptable event. This is an invitation of significant importance. Animals matter, and you matter.

This is an incomplete list of animal welfare/advocacy groups. Specifically, my intent is to give exposure to some groups on the international stage to encourage connecting and networking with each other on vitally urgent animal issues. It is inspiring to find out how many thousands of groups all over the globe are passionately involved in animal welfare. Networking is the key. It is a powerful and effective way to support and encourage each other. By exposing the dilemma of animals in crisis worldwide, we can be more effective. Sharing information and educating the public, our friends, our churches, and schools, wherever we live, makes a huge difference. People all over the world care deeply about animals and most Americans will be pleasantly surprised to learn about the astonishing number of effective and dedicated animal groups all over the globe. (Most of the American groups mentioned here are well known to the public in America, but some are not, and they were added because they were so unique.)

## **Websites to Inspire Animal Stewardship**

### **The Familiar Spirit**

*<http://thefamiliarspirit.wordpress.com/2011/07/page/2/>*

Extensive archive of animal rescue organizations and animal groups of all kinds.

### **Priceless Quotes on Animals**

*[http://www.think-differently-about-sheep.com/Animal\\_Rights\\_Quotations.htm](http://www.think-differently-about-sheep.com/Animal_Rights_Quotations.htm)*

*<http://www.all-creatures.org/>*

Beautiful and thought provoking quotes from famous people.

### **Working for a Peaceful World for Humans, Animals and the Environment**

*<http://www.all-creatures.org/living/godanimals.html>*

Sponsored by the, The Mary T. and Frank L. Hoffman Family Foundation.

75,000 documents, including, education, organizations, photographs, videos, recipes, prayers, animal activism, campaigns, discussions.

### **Theologian Elizabeth J. Farians**

*<http://www.all-creatures.org/poetry/whoareyou.shtml>* and an important essay at *[www.allcreatures.org/articles/ar-gospel.html](http://www.allcreatures.org/articles/ar-gospel.html)*

A consummate writer, speaker, and professor, designed and taught theology courses on Christianity, Violence, and Animals, followed by, Theology and Animals.

### **Farm Sanctuary**

*<http://www.farmsanctuary.org/>*

Farm Sanctuary is the largest and most effective farm animal rescue and protection organization in the country. Thousands of animals have been rescued and cared for over the years at their sanctuaries. They also educate millions of people about animal's plight and the consequences of factory farming on human health and the environment, advocating for laws that will improve their lives.

### **In Defense of Animals**

*<http://www.idausa.org>*

Founded by Elliot M. Katz, DVM to end the terrible animal exploitation, torture, maiming, and killing of defenseless animals in America and other countries. Working and advocating changing laws, seeking rights for the welfare of animals and their habitats, IDA has a unique and extensive history of dramatic animal rescues.

## **Norwegian Animal Protection Alliance**

*<http://www.dyrevern.no/english>*

They actively collaborate with animal welfare and animal rights organizations in Norway and internationally. Their website explains laws, has articles and essays, including their specific goals, new legislation, future objectives and their mission.

## **NOAH – For The Rights of all Animals**

*<http://www.dyrsrettigheter.no>*

A powerful and influential group against all exploitation of animals in Norway and internationally. Active all over Norway engaging communities, politicians, schools, the media, and people on the street, encouraging them to challenge all forms of animal cruelty through information, conferences, lectures, demonstrations, and changing laws. NOAH works closely with animal right's groups internationally, supporting campaigns and sharing goals and objectives. Impressive, POSITIVE AND INSPIRING website.

## **Animal Law and Animal Rights in Sweden**

*<http://www.animallaw.info/articles/arus8animal93.htm>*

The laws and policies in the court system in Sweden regarding animals.

## **About Animal Rights Sweden**

*<http://djurensratt.se/english>*

Their goal is to end animal experimentation, suffering in animal agriculture, fur production, and all forms of animal exploitation.

## **Attitudes of European Union Citizens Towards Animal Welfare**

*[http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs\\_270\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_270_en.pdf)*

A very interesting read, full of statistics, graphs and questionnaires.

## **United Kingdom**

*<http://www.animalaid.org.uk/h/n/AA/HOME/>*

UK's largest animal rights group, against all kinds of animal abuse.

## **Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals**

*<http://www.aswa.org.uk/>*

A Christian group in the Anglican Church against all animal cruelty.

## **Fight Against Animal Cruelty in Europe**

*<http://www.faace.co.uk/>*

Dramatic track record of activism against all forms of animal suffering.

### **Quaker Concern For Animals United Kingdom**

*<http://quaker-animals.co.uk/>*

Dedication to animal welfare through ecumenical and interfaith policies. In operation for well over a hundred years, with a great emphasis on anti-vivisection work.

### **Quaker Concern For Animals-United States**

*<http://www.all-creatures.org/qal/>*

Activism through education, religious services, lobbying, and protests.

### **Animals Worldwide**

*<http://animalsworldwide.org/>*

Tourism & Animal Welfare Helping animals around the globe.

### **Scottish Animal Protection Group**

*<http://www.onekind.org/>*

Animal advocacy against; snaring, circus cruelty, experiments, banning hunting dogs, and protecting wildlife, and other initiatives.

### **World Society for the Protection of Animals**

*[http://www.wspa-usa.org](http://www.wspa-usa.org/)*

Combating critical animal welfare issues in more than 50 countries working with the Council of Europe, national governments, and the United Nations.

### **World Wildlife Fund**

*<http://www.worldwildlife.org/home-full.html>*

The world's leading conservation organization, in 100 countries with 1.2 million members in the United States and 5 million globally.

### **Animals Australia the Voice for Animals**

*<http://www.animalsaustralia.org/>*

Dynamic national animal protection organisation, with unprecedented track record in investigating and exposing animal cruelty.

### **Animals SOS- SRI LANKA**

*<http://www.animalsos-sl.com/>*

To reduce suffering of stray animals in Sri Lanka by veterinary care, spay and neuter programs, adoptions, and a sanctuary for destitute street dogs and cats.

### **Act Against Animal Cruelty-Tasmania, Australia**

*<http://www.aact.org.au/>*

To eliminate all exploitation, cruelty and suffering of animals within Tasmania and beyond, through non-violent action, education, and lobbying.

### **Vets Without Borders**

*<http://vetswithoutborders.net/>*

*E-Mail. [info@vetswithoutborders.net](mailto:info@vetswithoutborders.net)*

Veterinarians and volunteers work in countries where animal abuse is widespread, no laws exist, and it is not challenged.

### **Best Friends Animal Society – Utah**

*<http://www.bestfriends.org/index.htm>*

Best Friends' No More Homeless Pets campaign created a new vision: A grassroots effort to increase adoptions and spay-neuter programs.

### **Australian Wildlife Protection Council**

*<http://www.awpc.org.au/>*

Their goal is to protect native animals especially kangaroos and emus from cruelty and exploitation, promoting a ban on kangaroo products.

### **Christian and Muslims working for Animal Protection**

*<http://www.animalslebanon.org>*

Animals Lebanon works to protect animal by legislation, rescuing animals to sanctuaries, and education programs, and are opposed to all animal abuse. They have found homes for 700 cats and dogs, closed down abusive zoos, exposed cruelty in circuses, and smuggling of endangered species.

### **British Union for citizens Against Vivisection**

*<http://www.buav.org/>*

For 100 years they have campaigned against experiments on animals, and are widely respected as an authority on animal testing issues, often asked by governments, media, corporations and official bodies for its advice or expert opinions. They analyze legislation and sit on decision-making panels around the globe on behalf of animals in laboratories.

### **Canadian Voice for Animals**

*<http://www.butcherscat.com/>*

Working to eliminate Amazon deforestation from livestock production, destruction of ecosystems, ways to reduce global warming, especially by reducing your carbon footprint by switching to a plant based diet.

## **Catholic Concern for Animals**

<http://www.catholic-animals.org/>

Its' main purpose is teaching the Church and global community about Catholic teaching about animals, through; tradition, prayer, liturgy and personal witness. Their goal is to create a more humane environment for animals.

## **Concern for Helping Animals in Israel**

<http://www.chai-online.org/> *click on English*

Their goal is to combat animal suffering in Israel by education, new laws, campaigns, for Jews, Muslims and Christians. They believe that animals do not exist to serve human needs, and are opposed to the exploitation of animals in all its forms. They teach empathy respect and responsibility for all living beings.

## **The Christian Vegetarian Association—USA**

(International non-denominational ministry)

[www.christianveg.com](http://www.christianveg.com)

Supports and encourages Christian vegetarians around the world, how being vegetarian is a powerful and faith-strengthening witness to Christ's love, compassion, and peace. Watch the video promoting their new DVD at:

<http://www.all-creatures.org/cva/cvavideo.htm>

## **The Christian Vegetarian Association – United Kingdom**

<http://www.christianvegetarian.co.uk/>

The British CVA, an affiliate, has an informative website promoting a way of life that is biblical, and represents good Christian stewardship. The website has extensive resources, campaigns, and great links to other Christian vegetarian groups, recipes, and writings. Their mission is to proclaim Christ's loving compassion for all creation.

## **Vafa-Animal Shelter in Iran**

<http://vafaanimalshelter.blogspot.com/>

A non-governmental shelter in Hashtgerd, west of Tehran, Iran, providing shelter for over 400 dogs. Enchanting website, filled with beautiful photographs, heart- warming stories, activities, remarkable volunteers, videos, adoption programs, and much needed medical assistance for the animals. They exist because of dedicated volunteers and private support and donations. Much praise to these dedicated animal stewards.

To help: Ms. Fereshteh Motamedi: [fatemehmotamedi@hotmail.com](mailto:fatemehmotamedi@hotmail.com)

## **Captive Animals Protective Society**

(United Kingdom Animal Charity)

<http://www.captiveanimals.org/>

A leader to end the use of animals in entertainment, like zoos, circuses and the exotic pet trade, by undercover investigations, research, campaigns, political lobbying and education . Their evidence-based campaigns and strong ethical basis provides a substantial improvement to the lives of animals by ending their exploitation.

### **Circle of Compassion for All Beings**

*<http://www.circleofcompassion.org/>*

An invitation to join the worldwide circle of prayer for animals, asking for blessings and peace to all free-living birds, fish, and animals being harmed, terrorized, and killed by toxic poisons spewed into their home lands, waters, and skies by both secret and blatant human activity.

### **World Parrot Trust**

*<http://www.parrots.org/>*

Nearly one-third of all parrot species are threatened in the wild. The World Parrot Trust has helped to support and fund vital conservation work for over 40 species of parrots in 22 countries.

### **Himalayan Animal Rescue Trust**

*<http://www.hartnepal.org/>*

There are significant populations of street-dogs in Nepal, who live short, tragic lives, which authorities control by the inhumane use of strychnine poison. HART seeks to reduce stray dog populations by spay neuter programs and improving their health and safety, but is in desperate financial need.

### **International Animal Rescue**

*<http://www.iar.org.uk/>*

They save animals from suffering around the world. They free and care for dancing bears in India, rescue primates from animal traffickers in Indonesia, treat stray dogs and cats in developing countries, and rescue wildlife and abused livestock, often returning them to the wild or a safe haven for life.

### **Irish Antivivisection Society**

*<http://www.irishantivivisection.org/>*

279,609 animals were sacrificed in Irish laboratories in 2010, the highest figure ever recorded, placing Ireland near the top in Europe for animal experimentation ruining Ireland's reputation for high animal welfare standards. IAVS opposes animal experiments and promotes scientific research and testing that does not involve animals.

### **The American Anti-Vivisection Society**

*<http://www.aavs.org>*

The (AAVS) is the oldest non-profit animal advocacy and educational organization in the United States and their mission is to oppose and end experimentation on animals and oppose all forms of cruelty to animals.

### **Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land**

*<http://www.safehaven4donkeys.org/>*

They have a sanctuary for old, sick and abandoned donkeys, and provide free veterinary care for poor, and abandoned animals. Muslims, Christians and Jewish advocates working with Palestinian owners to help the animals. Get their news-

letter, and help make nose chain covers to help the working donkeys by alleviating the terrible sores that can be caused by homemade harnessing. (A pattern for the nose chain covers can be downloaded.) Maybe a school project?

### **Stray Relief and Animal Welfare – New Delhi, India**

<http://www.strawindia.org/>

Stray Relief and Animal Welfare (STRAW) is a New Delhi, India based nonprofit organization recognized by Animal Welfare Board of India, working to improve the way animals in general, and suffering strays are treated.

### **Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals**

<http://www.aswa.org.uk/>

A Christian organization born of the Anglican Church, to address the abuse of animals in; intensive farming, the food chain, experimentation, diseases linked to animals, the cruelty towards pets and the killing of animals for pleasure. They believe God has given us a responsibility towards sentient beings with whom we share God's world.

### **Tribe of Heart – A Charitable Organization and Global Community**

<http://www.tribeofheart.org/>

Empowering caring people to become agents of peaceful social change, dedicated to living with kindness and respect for all living beings. Award-winning films and screenings listed.

### **Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry**

<http://www.uuam.org/>

UUAM is a group of concerned Unitarian Universalists and UU friends who desire to grow and express their faith as compassion towards all beings. They support one another in learning how caring for all beings is a moral and religious issue. Information on, Reverence for Life Programs, and classes.

### **The Peaceable Table – A free monthly journal**

<http://www.vegetarianfriends.net/>

Dedicated to providing inspiration and support for Quakers and other people of faith in the practice of love for animals and a vegetarian diet. Remarkable and inspiring website with extensive list of links to websites on animal issues, essays, articles, poems, book reviews, film reviews, editorials, and even recipes.

### **Animal Protection of New Mexico**

<http://www.apnm.org/>

APNM advocates the rights of animals through; Animal Control, Law Enforcement & Animal Cruelty Task Force Casework, Equine Protection Program, Promoting Humane Animal Shelters Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE), Spay-Neuter Promotion and Program Support, Humane Education, Getting Dogs Off Chains, Chimpanzees to Sanctuary, Coexisting With Beavers, and Cougars, and Wildlife Management Policies.

## **Vets Care Organization**

<http://www.vetscare.org/>

A private organization working for the welfare of animals and helping the veterinary profession in Pakistan, dedicated to promote a caring and humane attitude towards all earthlings. Their goal is that all humanity respect the earth and the intrinsic value of all forms of life.

## **Zen Cats-Cat Advocacy Group in Manila, the Philippines**

<http://www.zencats.org/>

Reducing the mistreatment and cruelty of cats, this group rescues cats in peril, holds free spay-neuter and vaccine clinics, does catch and release programs, adoptions, and education projects in schools and in the community.

## **Directory of Animal Protection agencies in the Netherlands**

<http://amsterdam.angloinfo.com/information/37/lanimals.asp>

Party for the Animals (Partij voor de Dieren) is a Dutch political party that campaigns to raise awareness of animal welfare and environmental issues.

## **Partij voor de Dieren**

(in Dutch with a section in English at <http://www.partijvoordedieren.nl>)

There are many animal sanctuaries across the Netherlands that shelter abandoned and unwanted cats, dogs and other animals. As well as adopting domestic animals, many also provide kennel or cattery facilities.

## **De Poezenboot**

<http://www.poezenboot.nl/>

An absolutely unique stray and abandoned cat shelter situated on a boat in Amsterdam.

## **Animal Rights Group in Denmark**

<http://anima.dk/>

Rich in photographs and many videos to watch in English.

## **Comprehensive list of 15 animal protection agencies in Canada**

[http://www.dmoz.org/Society/Issues/Animal\\_Welfare/Animal\\_Rights/Organizations/North\\_America/Canada/](http://www.dmoz.org/Society/Issues/Animal_Welfare/Animal_Rights/Organizations/North_America/Canada/)

## **Animal Rights and Vegetarian Associations in Canada and Globally**

<http://www.chooseveg.ca/animal-organizations-canada.asp>

## **We For Animals, Let Us Be Kind to the Animals (Amazing, extensive list for all of INDIA)**

<http://www.weforanimals.com>

Animal welfare organizations, humane societies, charitable trusts, animal rescue homes, shelters in INDIA (**40 pages of listings, all across India**) Also includes advice, articles, photographs, wallpaper, their visions and goals.

## **German Animal Welfare Association (Deutscher Tierschutzbunde.V.)**

*<http://www.mars.com/germany/en/commitments/human-animal-bonding/german-animal-welfare-association.aspx>*

Links to many animal organizations throughout Germany, at <http://www.worldanimal.net> The main national organization is the German Animal Welfare Organization (Deutscher Tierschutzbund) (in German) ABC Animal Protection ABC Tierschutz (in German) The German branch of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) (in German)

## **The WAN Directory**

*<http://www.worldanimal.net>*

The world's largest database of animal protection societies, with over 17,000 listings and more than 10,000 links to Web sites. Click these links to find a society or register for free.

## **Sea Shepherd Conservation Society**

*<http://www.seashepherd.org/>*

An international non-profit, marine wildlife conservation organization, to end the destruction of habitat and slaughter of defenseless marine life in the world's oceans. They are protectors and guardians of marine wildlife. Their website has significant and important videos, accomplishments, history, and highlights their heroism at great personal risk.

## **Greenpeace International**

*<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/>*

Global environmental organization in 40 countries that deals with; global warming, the Arctic under threat, deforestation, overfishing, commercial whaling and anti-nuclear issues. Using direct action, lobbying and research to achieve its' goals, Greenpeace empowers people all over the globe, to solve the devastating and growing world environmental crisis.

## **People For the Ethical Treatment of Animals**

*<http://www.peta.org/>*

The largest animal rights organization in the world, with more than 3 million supporters. PETA's main focus, animals exploited in; factory farms, the clothing trade, in laboratories, and in the entertainment industry. To achieve these goals, PETA works through public education, cruelty investigations, research, animal rescue, legislation, special events, celebrity involvement, and protest campaigns.

## **Animal Humane Society**

*<http://www.animalhumanesociety.org/>*

A private non-profit organization that deals with animal welfare issues such as; animals in entertainment and competition, in research, testing and education, pet overpopulation and humane investigations, rescues, etc.

## **Humane Society of the United States**

*<http://www.humanesociety.org/>*

The largest animal protection association in the United States with 11 million supporters in the U.S. and around the world. Reducing suffering, creating meaningful social change for animals by advocating for public policies, investigating cruelty, enforcing existing laws, educating the public about animal issues, joining with corporations on behalf of animal-friendly policies that make ours a more humane world.

## **WHOA Wild Horse Observation Association—Placitas, NM**

*<http://whoanm.org/wordpress/>*

To protect and preserve the remaining wild horses and their habitats in the areas of Placitas, New Mexico, the state of New Mexico, and all the United States. WHOA supports the preservation of wild horse family units (bands) and herds where they naturally roam, and humane treatment of wild horses and the preservation of their natural habitat.

## **Chinese Animal Protection**

*[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese\\_Animal\\_Protection\\_Network](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_Animal_Protection_Network)*

Chinese Animal Protection Network (CAPN) is a non-profit animal protection organization, and the first Chinese network for animal protection, founded by native Chinese people, and who are dedicated Chinese activists. CAPN gets high praise for the development of the modern animal rights movement in China in recent years, and has led the growing movement against eating cats and dogs, and promoting science-based animal protection.

## **Friends of Animals**

*[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friends\\_of\\_Animals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friends_of_Animals)*

FOA is an animal rights group based in Darien, Connecticut, with the goal of reducing the number of stray cats and dogs by offering low cost spay and neutering, and assisting in the preservation and protection of wild animals, and campaigns for animal rights.

## **American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

*<http://www.aspca.org/>*

Provides effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States, working to rescue animals from abuse, pass humane laws and share resources with shelters nationwide.

## **Monthly Link Letter**

*<http://www.nationallinkcoalition.org>*

National Link Coalition's LINK-Letter. on public policy, programs and research, regarding the link between animal abuse, child maltreatment, domestic violence and elder abuse. By clicking on the hyperlinks in their monthly PDF, you'll be connected immediately to people and organizations that are making a difference in the lives of abused people and animals. Phil Arkow, Coordinator, National Link Coalition, [arkowpets@snip.net](mailto:arkowpets@snip.net)

## **VITA -Russian Animal Right's Center**

*<http://www.vita.org.ru/english/english.html>*

Impressive animal rights group educating the Russian public about animal cruelty. VITA works for animal welfare laws in Russia. Millions of cats and dogs are still begging for food in the streets of Russian cities and towns and local authorities usually shoot the strays, instead of offering spay and neuter programs. VITA is working hard to establish spay- neuter clinics. They make numerous television specials and do radio programs, write articles, organize special events and give lectures on the animal protection issues. They deserve high praise for these endeavors.

## **Animals Matter**

*<http://www.animalsmatter.org>*

Help them achieve global recognition that animals matter, that they can feel pain and can suffer and that we all have a responsibility to put an end to cruelty around the world. They seek 10 million signatures to let the governments of the world know we are serious about achieving a Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare at the United Nations.

## **Dame Jane Goodall**

*<http://www.janegoodall.org/>*

A British primatologist, ethnologist, anthropologist, a United Nations Messenger of Peace, was given the esteemed title DBE, Dame of the British Empire by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II of England, in 1995, for her exemplary, and ground breaking research; her global outreach on behalf of chimpanzees and for teaching stewardship of the environment, etc. For more information on the life and achievements of this remarkable woman *<http://www.janegoodall.org/volunteer>*

## **Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation**

*<http://www.arf.net/>*

Mr. La Russa, founded ARF, a No-Kill organization dedicated to a deep concern for the thousands of animals abandoned to shelters each year and most are euthanized. ARF promotes spay-neuter programs, has outreach programs, and adoption events, etc.

## **Livestock's Long Shadow**

*<http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0701e/a0701e00.htm>*

PDF written and published by, "Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations" A distinguished group of scientists and researchers from all over the world provides a vitally important investigation and a thorough assessment of the global consequences, with the significant impacts of the world's livestock sector on the environment and is deliberately termed, Livestock's long shadow. The very substantial contribution of animal agriculture to climate change and air pollution, to land, soil and water degradation and to the reduction of biodiversity, can be downloaded for free. Director, Animal Production and Health Division FAO livestock's long shadow

## **UNITED POULTRY CONCERNS**

*<http://www.upc-online.org>*

A nonprofit organization dedicated to the compassionate and respectful treatment of chickens, turkeys, ducks and other domestic fowl. Through their extensive; mailings, conferences, information displays, film showings, and scientific research, they are educating society about the attributes of these remarkable birds.

## **Reverend John Dear, S.J.**

*<http://www.johndear.org>*

Rev. John Dear, S.J. author of Christianity and Vegetarianism, is a Jesuit Priest, Peace Activist, Organizer, Lecturer, Retreat Leader, and author of 28 books on peace and non-violence, including Living Peace. (Archbishop Desmond TuTu nominated him for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Dear](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Dear)) His booklet, “Christianity and Vegetarianism,” available for a free download, is a passionate, informative, Christian plea to all who care about animal suffering, human health, environmental degradation, poverty and global warming, and how becoming vegetarians can help end world hunger. Father Dear appeals to us to consider how non-violence must include our animal brethren, because all life is sacred.

## **JesusVeg.com: Christianity and Vegetarianism text**

*<http://www.jesusveg.com/christiantext.html>*

HIS BOOKLET IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

## **Richard H. Schwartz,**

Jewish Vegetarians of North America—*<http://jewishveg.com/>*

Why I am a Vegetarian—*<http://www.jewishveg.com/schwartz/whyimveg.html>* *<http://jewishveg.com/schwartz/intro-interview.html>*

Professor Emeritus, Mathematics, College of Staten Island; President of the Jewish Vegetarians of North America (JVNA); and co-founder and coordinator of the Society of Ethical and Religious Vegetarians (SERV). He is best known as a vegetarian activist and advocate for animal rights in the United States and Israel. His writings inspired the 2007 documentary film, A Sacred Duty: Applying Jewish Values to Heal the World, directed by Lionel Friedberg.

## **Eurogroup for Animals**

*<http://eurogroupforanimals.org/>*

Recognized by the European Parliament and Commission as the leading animal welfare organization in the EU. They represent animal welfare interests on many EU advisory committees and consultation bodies. They are the leading voice for animal welfare at European Union level providing a voice for the billions of animals kept in laboratories, farms and homes or living in the wild.

## **Born Free Foundation**

*<http://www.bornfreeusa.org> and <http://www.bornfree.org.uk>*

The Born Free Foundation is a conservation and animal rescue organization in the United Kingdom, established by actors Virginia McKenna and her husband Bill Travers with their son Will Travers .

## **Save Our Bats**

*<http://www.batworld.org/>*

Bat World Sanctuary, working to end the abuse and destruction of bats. The world's leader in bat care standards, cutting-edge rehabilitation treatments, with specific guidelines for extraordinary bat education programs worldwide.

## **The Man Who Walks With the Bears—Biologist Lynn Rogers, Ph.D.**

*<http://www.bearstudy.org/website/about-wri/staff/lynn-rogers,-ph.d..html>*

Wildlife Research Institute (WRI) has the longest and most detailed black bear study and largest educational outreach program ever done for black bears. North American Bear Center, award-winning website [www.bear.org](http://www.bear.org)

## **Sandia Mountain Bear Watch**

*<http://sandiamountainbearwatch.org>*

Their goal is to ensure a stable bear population in New Mexico, and to speak out against poor bear management and unethical hunting practices. Their Wildlife Steward program informs mountain residents and visitors to bear country how to co-exist with bears along with other wildlife, with an emphasis on bear-proofing.

## **PAWS, people helping animals**

*<http://www.paws.org/>*

PAWS is a champion for animals—rehabilitating injured and orphaned wildlife, sheltering and adopting homeless cats and dogs, and educating people to make a better world for animals and people. Located in Lynnwood, Washington.

They provide here a long list of other groups using the name PAWS, which are not affiliated with them.

*<http://www.paws.org/wrong-paws.html>*

## **Suggested DVD's for your library, for fund raising, for church or school showings.**

### **Forks Over Knives**

<http://www.forksoverknives.com/about/synopsis/>

FORKS OVER KNIVES examines the profound claim that most, if not all, of the degenerative diseases that afflict us can be controlled, or even reversed, by rejecting our present menu of animal-based and processed foods. The major story-line in the film traces the personal journeys of a pair of pioneering researchers, Dr. T. Colin Campbell and Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn.

### **Food, Inc**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QqQV7l-MP3I>

An American documentary film about the industrialization of our food, exposing agribusiness as environmentally unsustainable, that meat production is inhumane and abusive to animals, that misleading food labels do not reveal the contamination in our food from pesticides, fertilizers, antibiotics and hormones, and the health issues regarding diseases. Director, Robert Kenner [www.youtube.com/watch?v=QqQV7l-MP3I](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QqQV7l-MP3I)

### **MAD COWBOY: THE DOCUMENTARY – DVD**

[http://www.madcowboy.com/02\\_VVFprods.002.html](http://www.madcowboy.com/02_VVFprods.002.html)

Fascinating life and experiences of a former cattle rancher who changed his life dramatically when he realized that chemically based agricultural production methods were unsustainable, ecologically disastrous, and toxic to human health. A champion in educating people on the dangers of the typical American diet, his research, books, lectures and DVDs have changed lives.

### **Tribe of Heart – A Charitable Organization and Global Community**

<http://www.tribeofheart.org/>

Empowering caring people to become agents of peaceful social change, dedicated to living with kindness and respect for all living beings. Award-winning films and screenings listed.

### **The Emotional World of Farm Animals- Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson**

<http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/the-emotional-world-of-farm-animals/> (**Watch this entire documentary here for free.**)

The Emotional World of Farm Animals is a fantastic documentary about how animals think and feel, instead of just seeing them as food. Jeffrey Masson, who wrote, “When Elephants Weep” and “Dogs Never Lie About Love,” inspires people to join him on his intuitive journey while writing his latest book, “The Pig Who Sang to The Moon.” His pursuit to comprehend the rich emotional lives of farm animals took him all across America, visiting animal sanctuaries communicating with the animals themselves and their caregivers about their rescue. Masson also delves into the rich ancestry of these curious and intelligent animals and interviews top experts in animal behavior who offer scientific perspectives on these amazing creatures. (Excerpt from [animalplace.org](http://animalplace.org))

## **HELPTO SWITCH TO A PLANT BASED DIET**

*<http://www.tastyandmeatless.com>*

Fantastic DVDs with step by step directions on making amazing vegetarian meals, full of great recipes and nutritional information. The surprisingly easy and uncomplicated ways to really enjoy a plant based diet.

## **We Are Their Only Hope**

*<http://blessedbetheanimals.com>*

After you acquaint yourself with these websites, books and DVDs, I invite you to read my essay titled, *We Are Their Only Hope*. at my website, <http://blessedbetheanimals.com>