

Animal exploitation is often pervasive on college campuses. Animals are shocked, burned, mutilated, diseased and addicted to drugs in university laboratories; they are killed and dissected in biology classes; factory farmed cows, pigs and chickens are served as food in cafeterias, and dogs and cats are abandoned each year by students when they leave campus for the summer.

Even college classes support and abet animal exploitation, often blatantly. Psychology textbooks describe animal studies without questioning the morality of cruel and frivolous experiments, and philosophy departments often fail to raise animal issues in classes on moral responsibility and ethics.

Students who are concerned about animal rights can work to end animal exploitation on campus, and to raise awareness of animal issues among their classmates. In universities around the country, students are establishing animal rights groups to educate their peers and build a community of compassionate people committed to ending animal suffering.

This booklet offers suggestions, resources, and ideas for helping animals both on and off campus. We hope that you will use it to make your school, and the world, more humane.



What you can do as an individual:

EDUCATE YOURSELF

Read, learn, study and read some more. It is crucial to be well-informed and knowledgeable about animal rights issues if you hope to explain them to others. Acquaint yourself with the connections between animal rights, environmental and health concerns, and bring up these connections in class discussions and with friends and acquaintances. We can send you books, articles, videos and other materials to help you educate yourself. Please examine the resources at the end of this booklet for more information.

BE AS CONSISTENT AS POSSIBLE

To the best of your ability, be consistent in action and word. Remember, though, that perfect consistency is very difficult. For instance, few people become strict vegetarians overnight. Do the best you can, and tell others who may criticize you for inconsistency that you are trying to break longtime habits and behaviors. Invite them to join you in that struggle.

PRACTICE

Try to challenge opposing views by doing role plays with friends. Ask each other difficult questions and take turns responding. With practice, you will learn how best to express your opinions to friends, acquaintances, professors and the general public.

