The Animal Legal Defense Fund is a network of over 350 attorneys who take direct legal action to fight animal abuse.

Since 1981, ALDF has won precedent-setting victories to expand the legal rights and protections of animals on a variety of fronts.

In Research Laboratories

ALDF attorneys are in the forefront of the fight to rescue millions of helpless animals who suffer and die each year in cruel research experiments. We've gone as far as the U.S. Supreme Court to block importation of primates for research. And we continue to fight at the federal level to expand enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act to cover all animal species subjected to experimentation.

In the Wild

ALDF combats animal exploitation in the wild by placing controls on trappers and "sport" hunters, and by fighting to stop hunting wherever we can.

In California, we've halted trophy hunting of mountain lions and archery hunting of black bears. And we drafted the nation's first anti-fur legislation to fight against this cruel and unnecessary slaughter. Internationally, we square off against unscrupulous animal dealers who capture endangered species for sale to zoos and laboratories, as well as poachers who slaughter innocent elephants for ivory.

In Cities and Towns

ALDF gives legal assistance to humane societies and local prosecutors to help enforce anti-cruelty laws, and works to protect companion animals threatened by neighbors, landlords or veterinary malpractice.

On Farms

ALDF is a leader in the legal battle against factory farming techniques that subject animals to inhumane treatment.

We've gone to court against the cruel confinement of veal calves and the hot-iron face-branding of dairy cows. And our suit to stop the patenting of genetically-altered animals brought national attention to this crucial issue.

In Classrooms

ALDF leads the fight for the right of students to refuse to participate in animal dissection activities in schools. Our efforts focused enormous media and public attention on the issue for the very first time.

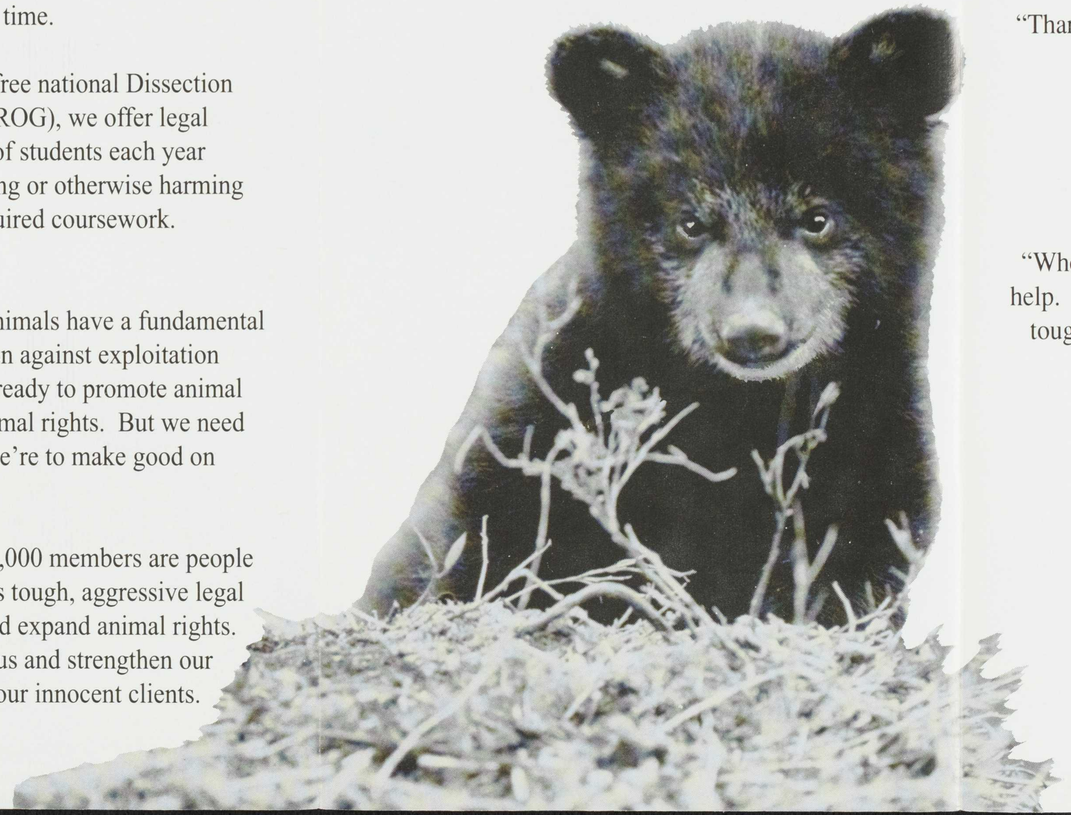
And through our toll-free national Dissection Hotline (1-800-922-FROG), we offer legal counsel to thousands of students each year who object to dissecting or otherwise harming animals as part of required coursework.

Join Us

ALDF believes that animals have a fundamental right to legal protection against exploitation and abuse. We stand ready to promote animal justice and defend animal rights. But we need your membership if we're to make good on that promise.

ALDF's more than 50,000 members are people who know that it takes tough, aggressive legal action to safeguard and expand animal rights. We invite you to join us and strengthen our ability to fight for all our innocent clients.

Whenever animals need legal defense against abuse and exploitation, ALDF is there.



WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ALDF

"ALDF attorneys are the legal brain trust of the animal rights movement. Their dedication and tenacity have made a real impact on animal law, and have forced the government to take animal issues seriously."
Peter Gerard
Executive Director
National Alliance for Animal Legislation

"ALDF gave me the courage and support to stand up for my right not to dissect. Thanks for being there when I needed you most!"
Tiffany Rohlke
College Biology Student

"Thanks to ALDF, the animal rights movement doesn't sit in the back of the bus anymore."
Prof. Tom Regan,
philosopher and author of "The Case for Animal Rights"

"When animal lives are on the line, I turn to ALDF for help. No one else has their legal talent or reputation for toughness. ALDF is an invaluable asset to the animal rights movement — and to animals."
Dr. Shirley McGreal
Chairwoman
International Primate Protection League