AnimalVoice

Rekindling the Spirit of Care and Respect for All Life

Issue 83 • October 2019

This issue gives a glimpse into aspects of our moral evolution over the last 30 years

Sarah Pryke's **Mosaic Wins Gold**

Self-taught glass and mosaic artist **Sarah Pryke** has honoured *Animal Voice* by giving permission for her magnificent mosaic to grace our front cover.

Based in KZN, Sarah was awarded 'gold' for her mosaic depiction of the little girl Addibel Rupiya and her puppy, Leo.

Sarah is a volunteer at the Mpophomeni-based charity Funda Nenja which uses dogs to nurture children into caring and responsible young adults. Her mosaic scooped two awards at the 2019 'Between Hope and Despair' competition held by the Mosaic Association of South Africa in Johannesburg recently. It earned gold in both the 'traditional' as well as 'best on show' categories.

To see more of Sarah's artworks go to:
https://fragmentsofafrica.co.za/

Self-taught artist
Sarah Pryke

BFFs Addibel Rupiya and Leo, one year on

Editorial

By Louise van der Merwe

"It's said that the darkest hour is just before the dawn. And the hour is certainly very dark for the nonhumans of this world. So dare I allow myself to hope then, that the dawn is not too far off?

I think maybe I can. Today, we have leading legal minds worldwide working towards the inclusion of nonhumans within our circle of moral justice.

Among them is South Africa's Constitutional Law expert, **Professor David Bilchitz**. He is pictured here with Kenyan **Advocate Jim Karani** at the Cape Town *Animal Conference 2019* held at the University of Cape Town in September.

It is a long way we have come since Animal Voice first opened its doors 30 years ago. Back in the day, as a lone voice under the name of Humanity for Hens, we laid a complaint of cruelty in terms of the Animals Protection Act against the largest producer of battery eggs in South Africa at the time, *Lemoenkloof Farms*. Despite video footage of horrendous suffering and an opinion from Senior Counsel that we had a *prima facie* case, the Prosecuting Authority eventually declined to prosecute *(see Milestones in history overleaf)*.

But today, our voices have risen to a crescendo of discontent at the appalling treatment of those who are other-than-human; and an almost imperceptible shift in the law is already underway with the Constitutional Court's recognition of nonhumans as beings with intrinsic value. This is a momentous development in the history of our moral evolution as humans. We are in the midst of redefining our humanity at its very core.

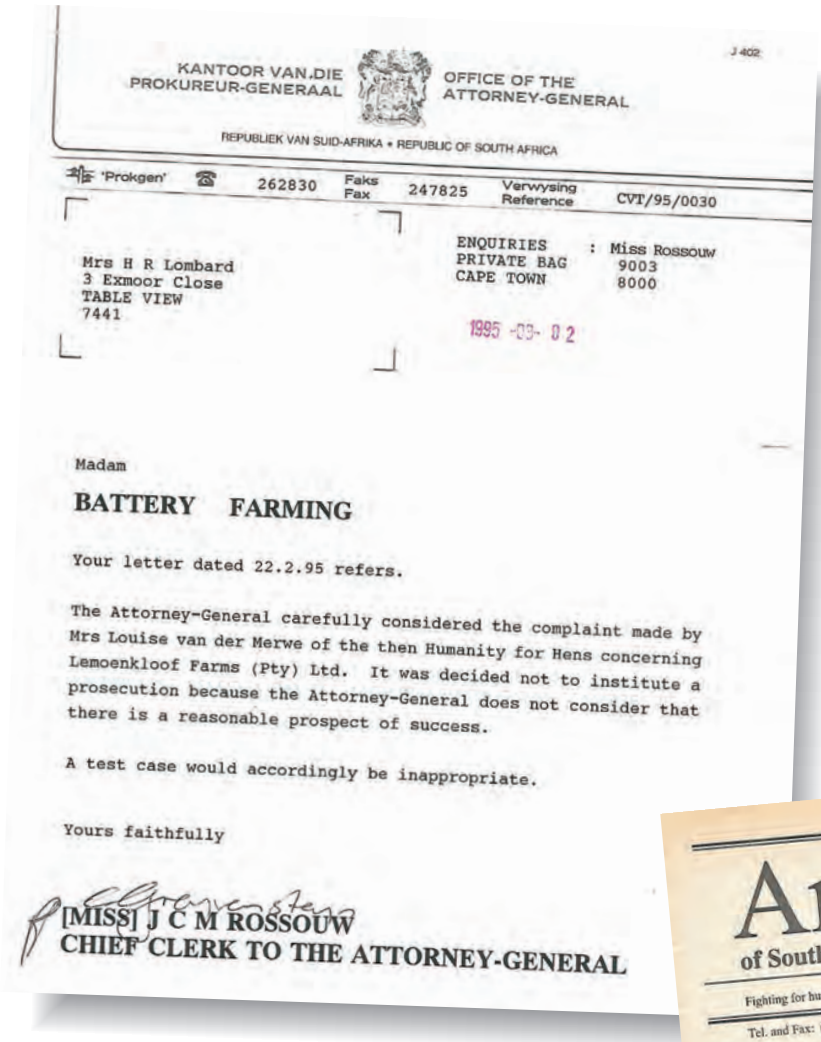
Thank you to every one of you who supports our endeavours."

Sincerely,

Louise van der Merwe.

Louise van der Merwe
Managing Trustee:
The Humane Education Trust
Editor: *Animal Voice*

Milestones in History



KANTOOR VAN DIE PROKUREUR-GENERAAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA • REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

'Prokgen' 262830 Faks Fax 247825 Verwysing Reference CVT/95/0030

Mrs H R Lombard
3 Exmoor Close
TABLE VIEW
7441

ENQUIRIES : Miss Rossouw
PRIVATE BAG 9003
CAPE TOWN 8000

1995 -03- 02

Madam

BATTERY FARMING

Your letter dated 22.2.95 refers.

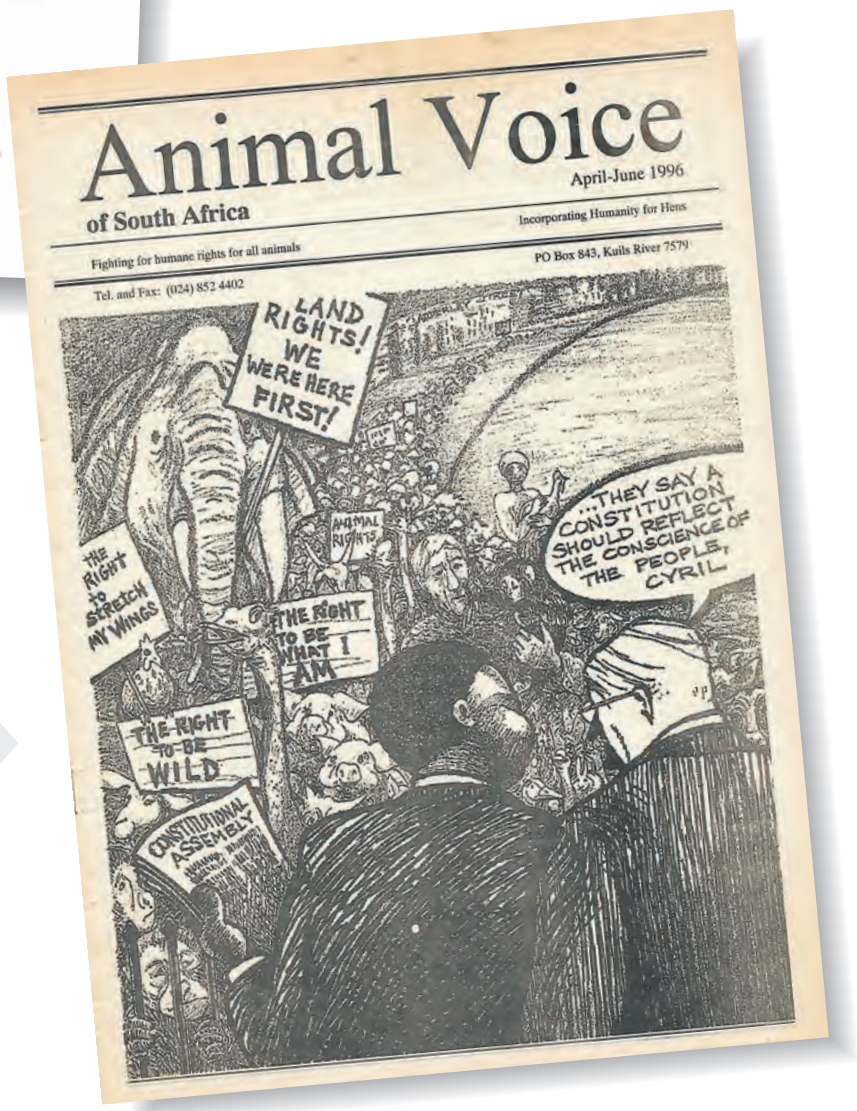
The Attorney-General carefully considered the complaint made by Mrs Louise van der Merwe of the then Humanity for Hens concerning Lemoenkloof Farms (Pty) Ltd. It was decided not to institute a prosecution because the Attorney-General does not consider that there is a reasonable prospect of success.

A test case would accordingly be inappropriate.

Yours faithfully

[MISS] J C M ROSSOUW
CHIEF CLERK TO THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Letter from Attorney General declining to prosecute Lemoenkloof Farms for the horrendous suffering of hens in battery cages.



Animal Voice
of South Africa
April-June 1996
Incorporating Humanity for Hens
Fighting for humane rights for all animals
PO Box 843, Kuils River 7579
Tel. and Fax: (024) 852 4402

This cover of *Animal Voice* 23 years ago is as relevant today as it was back then. It marked the handing in of 25 000 signatures petitioning for the inclusion of animal welfare in the new South African Constitution. The signatures were submitted to **Cyril Ramaphosa** who was chairman of the Constitutional Assembly at the time.

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WEBSITES
http://www.animalvoice.org
http://www.caringclassrooms.co.za
Animal Voice Academy
http://www.animalvoiceacademy.org

Animal Protection is knocking at the UN's door

GAL Association takes a giant step on behalf of animals

A draft convention to protect animals on a global scale is headed to the United Nations for adoption. Dr Sabine Brels, the driving force behind the initiative, along with GAL President Dr Antoine Goetschel and others key experts, explains the benefits and implications for global society if this evolutionary stride forward is achieved.

Animal Voice:
As co-founder of the Global Animal Law GAL Association, and project leader of the draft UN Convention for animals, please tell us how, if adopted, this convention will change the world for all its beings.

Sabine:
Every corner of the world knows now that animals are not the mindless entities that we commodified and believed we could use irrespective of our treatment of them. As we speak, hundreds of thousands of NGO's are calling attention to the plight of animals. Scientists themselves are demanding that we redefine our humanity in light of our new awareness of animal cognition and emotion. If the draft convention is passed, the world will enter into a new era where we will take the well-being of nonhumans into consideration in everything we do. We will literally be redefining our humanity UNiversally.

Animal Voice:
Why do you believe that the UN's adoption of a convention is necessary? Animal Welfare declarations at UN level have been made before.

Sabine Brels:
A convention is a treaty which is legally binding on member states. A convention requires member states to implement the terms of a convention into their own legislation. In contrast, a declaration is a recommendation and is not binding. To date there is no legislative global protection for animals. GAL's proposed convention, to be known as the ***UN Convention on Animal Health, Welfare and Protection (UNCAHP)*** is in continuity of previous declarations such as the UN's World Charter for Nature which states that man must be

guided by a moral code of action in recognition of the fact that "every form of life is unique, warranting respect regardless of its worth to man".

Animal Voice:
Up until now, good animal welfare has been calculated predominantly on the provision of food, water and shelter. I notice that the draft convention adds a major psychological dimension to the well-being of animals.

Sabine Brels:
Very much so! Animals are sentient. Their dignity, as individuals, must be respected in every interaction. Exposing them to anxiety, humiliation, disrespect or degradation is absolutely contrary to our obligations to them.
UNCAHP incorporates brand-new aspects of our obligations in the protection of animals, incorporating their fundamental interests, legal representation in courts of law, and encouraging the development of alternatives to animal exploitation and products. As you can see, a major interest of UNCAHP is to consolidate far-reaching provisions for all animals in a truly global context.

Animal Voice:
In South Africa, the Humane Education Trust is lobbying the Education Department to include the Five Freedoms for Animals as a vital component of the curriculum for young learners. I see you include the Five Freedoms in the draft convention.

Sabine Brels:
Yes, as you know, the Five Freedoms for Animals is one of the standards of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). Decision-making, as we now realise, requires input from the heart as much as from the mind. Some of the worst decisions in the history of mankind have been taken because the so-called 'soft' considerations of the heart, were excluded. Instilling the Five Freedoms for Animals into the hearts and minds of young children is crucial to a new world order where the UN's existing mandate for a peaceful world can be achieved. The UN's mandate for a peaceful world specifically states that peaceful co-existence is not limited to human beings but must also be extended to all nonhuman individual animals.

Dr ANTOINE GOETSCHEL
President and Founder of GAL

Dr SABINE BRELS
Co-founder and Project Head UNCAHP

Animal Voice:
GAL is even asking that, if adopted, the UN Convention on Animal Health, Welfare and Protection (UNCAHP) should be incorporated into the constitution of member states as well.

Sabine Brels:
GAL believes that the time is right for us to act now. Global consciousness of the terrible plight of nonhuman animals is such that the ***UNCAHP*** has a chance of being adopted. In addition, an integral part of ***UNCAHP*** is the establishment of a UN Secretariat responsible for the implementation of the convention and the monitoring of the compliance of each member state. We believe that ***UNCAHP*** creates the appropriate balance in the interests of humans and animals in the world today.

Animal Voice:
We congratulate GAL for drawing up this mind-changing document. We, and many other organizations, would love to play a part in bringing about a new world order as set out in UNCAHP. Please tell us how best we can support the adoption of this draft convention.

Sabine Brels:
While being at an early stage, UNCAHP needs the support of like-minded organizations at large, but also governments and everyone who would like to help this promising initiative in any possible way. We thank you in advance!

Click here for a fuller understanding of the proposed *UNCAHP:*
http://projects.globalanimallaw.org/en/

Changing our Perception of the Value of Animals

will push against violence and begin to build a society of care and respect

— David Bilchitz, Constitutional Law Expert

In a fascinating interview on 7 August this year, Radio 702's upbeat talk show host **Eusebius McKaiser** invited **David Bilchitz**, Professor of Fundamental Rights and Human Rights at the University of Johannesburg, to discuss society's evolving relationship with nonhuman animals. Prof Bilchitz is also Director of the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC).

This interview has been condensed and edited for length and clarity. To hear the podcast in full go to: http://www.702.co.za/podcasts/125/the-best-of-the-eusebius-mckaiser-show/235161/do-animals-only-have-value-if-they-benefit-humans

Eusebius McKaiser

David Bilchitz

Eusebius:
Do animals have value only in so far as they benefit you and me or do they have value for their own sake?

David:
We need to begin by explaining the difference between *instrumental* value and *intrinsic* value. Take slavery as an example. A slave was essentially someone else's property and could be used for that person's benefit. A slave was fed and housed not because the owner cared about the slave but because he wanted the slave to continue being able to work. So slavery is a good example of *instrumental* value - when something (or someone) is just a means to someone else's end. *Intrinsic* value is different.

When it comes to animals, the question is are they there simply for my financial benefit, or my pleasure, or my entertainment (i.e. their value is instrumental) or are animals deserving of respect in and of themselves (i.e. their value is intrinsic). Let's take the example of hunting, where the hunter says: “I get a thrill, I get pleasure from shooting an animal and the animal doesn't matter in and of itself because my thrill is more important than the animal's life”. This constitutes the problematic view of where animals are seen simply as instruments.

Eusebius:
Why do you say this is problematic?

David:
Because it's ***the*** fundamental issue. The history of the world is one where humans have been seen as instrumental to other humans' ends. This came to a head in the Second World War – the Holocaust – where certain people, Jews and Roma people – were not regarded as having value (neither instrumental nor intrinsic) and so were easy to exterminate. The world took a strong stance against this and said every human being has dignity, has a fundamental (intrinsic) value, and cannot be treated as a means to someone else's end.

So the question is: who has intrinsic value? Is it only human beings? We humans say YES, because human beings have sophisticated capacities, the ability to speak, to think about philosophical questions and these are distinguishing factors. But, not all humans have these capacities. Take a very young child for example. Most people think a very young child has rights, has intrinsic value. Yet they don't have the capacity to engage in a conversation like adults do. Similarly, what about people with serious psycho-social disabilities? What are the grounds for their dignity and their intrinsic value?

When we look more deeply into this, we find these humans nevertheless have a capacity to feel, a capacity for emotions, of experiencing pleasure and pain.

And if we then agree that the capacity to ***feel*** is the relevant criterion for intrinsic value, it follows that we must also then ask: do any other animals have such a capacity? And we find that many, many, many animals do have these capacities.

Eusebius:
*Are you saying that simply being **sentient** is the key to understanding why one might have intrinsic value and therefore dignity?*
David:
Correct.

Eusebius:
Someone might say: Come on David, you are taking this thing way too far. All we need is a basic animal welfare act that says treat animals decently. Why do we have to go the extra bit and say animals have interests, that they have a point of view. Are you saying that the animals we often regard as brutes have an inner psychological landscape that is actually on a continuum with what humans experience and that we've just been ignorant about this?

David:
Yes, the more we are learning from neuroscience and from the science of animal behaviour, the more we understand the complex internal lives of animals.

Eusebius:
As an academic lawyer, please describe to the public how the laws regarding animals are changing. Over the years there's been a fascinating evolution in our jurisprudence.

David:
Absolutely. In 2016, in a minority judgment by Justice Edwin Cameron, the Constitutional Court actually placed intrinsic value on animals as individuals. This is now the law of our land.

Eusebius:
*Yes, the law is finally recognising that **green rights** are now as important as civil rights and political rights.*

David:
Yes, we've had this notion that everything is unlimited, and that somehow we can destroy and nothing will happen to us. Yet this rapacious use of the environment is actually destroying the planet. We can learn from African philosophy in this regard. There is a kind of humility in African philosophy about ourselves in relation to other spaces. For example, African philosophy talks about *ubuntu* as not just about our relationship with other humans but our relationship with the rest of physical nature itself. I think our Constitution has the potential to be interpreted in this way. It talks about the environment needing to be protected for both this generation and future generations and that the government must take measures to promote conservation and to secure what it calls ecologically sustainable development.

Sadly, the way our government has interpreted these notions to date has been one of rapacious

use. In relation to animals, essentially the government has said we can do whatever we like provided it makes money. However, in a recent judgment* on lion bone quotas, the judge said we cannot just treat a lion as a commodity, as something that lacks respect; that the Department of Environment Affairs has a duty to consider animal welfare as an integrated part of conservation ethics.

See *judgment here:
https://emsfoundation.org.za/wp-content/uploads/Judgment-Lion-Bone-case-6-Aug

I think implicit in this judgment is that once you recognise animals as having intrinsic value they cannot simply be reduced to their body parts.
I want to make the moral point here because I think this is the critical thing: **Not any trade that will help advance economic growth should be taken**. This was the very argument that revolved around the slave trade. Many people said we can't do away with the slave trade, it will destroy the whole economy. And the moral argument was: you simply cannot treat humans as slaves.

Last word from David:
The point is: should we see animals as simply there for our use or should we see them, not as entities

Does SHE have a point of view?

that are foreign or alien, but more like people from different cultures who are deserving of respect, of a life of their own and a need for well-being. If we can integrate this understanding (into our ethos), it seems to me that it will change our society for the better by pushing against violence, against reductionism, against the commodification of animals, and begin to build a society of care and respect? I think the Constitutional Court is telling us this is the direction towards which we have to move.

Are nonhumans less important than humans?

Philosopher Christine Korsgaard PhD who has taught at Harvard for nearly 30 years and is acclaimed as a world expert in moral philosophy, believes humans are not inherently more important than animals. In her new book Fellow Creatures: Our Obligations to the Other Animals, she says: "Some people think that humans are just plain more important than other animals. I ask: More important to whom? We may be more important to ourselves, but that doesn't justify our treating animals as if they're less important, any more than the fact that your family is more important to you justifies you treating other people's families as if they are less important than yours."
https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2019/06/harvard-professor-animals-are-just-as-important-as-people/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z48HiV6qKGc&fbclid=IwAR2q0L5rKKVaYzBPtMxcQqb9VZqU8vgDOLq4JjPap4yYzVRilT__8q1V0ow

How BIG BUSINESS SPAWNS VIOLENCE in Impoverished Communities

By Louise van der Merwe

Buying eggs off a supermarket shelf hides a horrible cruelty about which most middle-class customers have little idea. Poor people, on the other hand, know about our ill treatment of chickens but are so habituated that it seems normal to them. End-of-lay chickens with broken legs, for example, chickens with prolapses (from having been selectively bred to lay 276 more eggs than nature intended), chickens trampled in the chaos of transport and the stress of temperature extremes — all of this is routine for South Africa's impoverished communities where end of lays are dumped for the final amount of money to be extracted from their existence. It's also where communities, forced to become habituated to suffering, become desensitised, suffer empathy erosion, emotional stunting, and become vulnerable to domestic violence, criminal behaviour, and child abuse.

As I write this, I think of the video that went viral this year of the care-giver at the ECD centre in Gauteng who savagely attacked a little girl for vomiting, and another video where she assaults a little boy for wetting himself.
She knocked him to the ground and then put her foot on his head! The care-giver was carted off to prison but I wonder to myself about the level of deep emotional erosion that underpinned her unforgiveable and savage behaviour.

Her treatment of the children was unforgiveable, but so too were the experiences imposed on her by society. One can bet one's bottom Rand that she grew up in poverty and was exposed to degradation and the erosion of empathy on a grand scale. In all probability, she learned right from the world 'go' that maltreatment of animals was 'normal'. From there it is a very short step to maltreat other beings that are just as vulnerable and also have no voice – our children.

My appeal is to big business to take joint responsibility for the life-long damage done to the psyche of those two small children who fell victim to a woman so habituated to suffering that her empathy was at level zero.

Head of psychiatry at Cambridge University **Professor Simon Baron-Cohen** believes we should not talk about evil, but rather, about zero empathy.

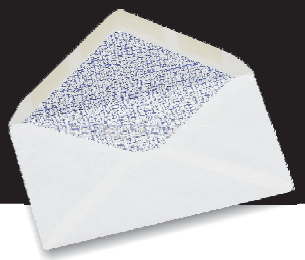
The way we treat animals is wrong. It impacts on all of us. If we want to find the root of violence in our society, look at that part we don't want to think about – the way we treat our animals.

Big Business, it starts with you.

Of nearly 1.9 million live end-of-lay hens sent to cull traders for sale around South Africa in the first six months of 2018, some 11500 of them were in agony from broken legs and cloacal prolapses, or died of stress, trampling, or extremes of temperature before reaching the cull outlets.

Source: South African Poultry Association Bulletin 'Poultry Focus'.

OPEN LETTER to South African Bureau of Standards as it develops new standards for Agriculture



Ms Morwesi Ntuka
Project Leader for the development of Standards in Agriculture
South African Bureau of Standards
Email: Morwesi.ntuka@sabs.co.za
Tel: 012 4286758

30th August 2019

Dear Morwesi,

Re: Request for an urgent phase-out of battery cages for laying hens

We learn with deep dismay that the South African Poultry Association has passed a resolution that will confine the nation's 25 million laying hens to a space allowance, per hen, of just 450 cm^2 - right up until 1 January 2039.

It is of no comfort whatsoever that in terms of the resolution, the installation of new cages, as from this year, must make provision for a miniscule extra bit of space per hen – from 450 cm^2 to 550 cm^2.

What is deeply disturbing is that the resolution was adopted despite volumes of scientific evidence confirming the immense cruelty that goes hand in hand with the battery cage system for laying hens. In this regard, we refer to the following extracts from recent issues of Poultry Bulletin, the South African Poultry Association's own mouthpiece, namely:

Poultry Bulletin: March 2017, volume 6, issue 03
Poultry Bulletin: April 2017, volume 6, issue 04
Poultry Bulletin: March 2018, volume 7, issue 03

In a two-part series titled the **Cage Free Revolution**, egg farmers are advised to make the move to cage-free as "no amount of improved management can compensate for the welfare issues inherent in the (battery cage) system." Other quotes from the two-part series include:

- "Scientific research has demonstrated that conventional cage systems deny birds the opportunity to exhibit a number of key behaviours which are fundamental to their welfare, resulting in increased levels of frustration, pain and stress. These important behaviours include the opportunity to build a nest, preen, stretch and flap their wings, perch and dust-bathe."

- "There is a tendency amongst producers to argue that cost-effectiveness and disease control make caged systems the only viable production system in a hungry world but this argument ignores half a century of thorough research into laying hen welfare and thus plays into the hands of the animal rights activists."

- "Scientifically, (egg) producers are on shaky ground if we try to defend our production system as humane."

- "Hen welfare is rapidly becoming a 'horizon issue' for South African producers – an issue which could have profound consequences for producers if we do not recognise it, evaluate it and respond to it, effectively, in time. The speed with which major US and UK corporations have announced their commitment to cage-free production has demonstrated how quickly a shift can be imposed on an industry that has not paid enough attention to the external landscape."

- "The cage-free revolution is moving rapidly through the world and the South African egg industry should make sure that they are prepared to accommodate the change."

- "It is virtually impossible for a business to defend itself against a YouTube or Twitter attack, unless it has nothing to be defensive about."

- Titled "**Spend a little to LAY A LOT**", the article states that "although it may cost more, at first anyway, to implement new housing systems for commercial layers, there are definite benefits over time in terms of eggs per hen, feed conversion ratios and lower mortality rates".

- "Yet the biggest benefit", it states, in moving away from battery cages towards other housing systems "clearly lies in meeting the concern of consumers for the welfare of animals".

The resolution to keep hens in intolerably small spaces was taken, as I understand it, due to consideration for the farmers who have invested in battery cage infrastructure.

In the world in which we live today, humans are conscious of the fact that inhumanity cannot be justified on the basis of economic benefits. Slavery and apartheid were justified on this basis and yet, in our modern consciousness, both are reviled for their hideous inhumanity. Our treatment of laying hens is a hideous inhumanity and an unforgiveable blight on our collective human conscience.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. We appeal to the SABS to ensure that laying hens lead lives worth living as we enter a new era of compassion. The South African government has stated that it supports the Five Freedoms for farmed animals as endorsed by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). As you know, these freedoms are:

- **Freedom from hunger and thirst**
- **Freedom from discomfort**
- **Freedom from pain, injury and disease**
- **Freedom to express normal behaviour**
- **Freedom from fear and distress**

Noteworthy is the fact that only one of these Five Freedoms is available to the 25 million laying hens trapped in battery cages.

Sincerely,
Louise van der Merwe
SA Representative: Compassion in World Farming
P O Box 825, Somerset West, 7129
Tel: 021 852 8160 - Cell: 082 457 9177
Website: www.animalvoice.org

Nearly thirty years ago, **Louise van der Merwe** featured in the 4th December 1991 issue of *Fair Lady*. At the time there wasn't a single free range egg in any supermarket, anywhere in South Africa. Today, after sending the Open Letter to the SABS, she is privileged to be included as a participating committee member at the South African Bureau of Standards in its development of new standards in Agriculture. ***"I will speak for the hens, heart and soul,"*** she says.

Bring on plant-based eggs!

https://qz.com/1689009/plant-based-eggs-arestarting-to-compete-with-the-real-thing/

Animal Voice is determined to fight SAPA's resolution to keep laying hens in torment for the next 20 years

As representative for Compassion in World Farming, Louise has been included by the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) as a participating committee member in its current development of new standards in agriculture, including the welfare of chickens.

The SABS is finalising the draft New Standards on 23 and 24 October and the document will then be published for public comment. It is then that we must go all-out on behalf of the hens. *Animal Voice* will alert you on Face Book as soon as the draft document is published.

If parents deliberately starved their young children for 18 hours, it would be called child abuse

So what makes it okay to starve piglets?

Weaning piglets at four weeks of age is considered perhaps the most stressful event of their lives, even more stressful than having their tails cut off, being castrated if born a male, and having their teeth clipped. Now new research in Europe could potentially cause even more stress to piglets.

Scientists at Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture and Ghent University in Belgium, suggest that taking the piglets from their mothers is so stressful that the piglets fail to embrace their new solid food optimally. However, an 18-hour 'fast' between taking the piglets from their mothers and the provision of their new food, encourages eating and improves the weight of the piglets three weeks after weaning.

Alternative Meat

See here: https://www.investmentbank.barclays.com/our-insights/carving-up-the-alternative-meat-market.html

for all you ever wanted to know about 'Alternative Meat' and why Barclays Investment Bank predicts it will go mainstream as a solution to

- The impact of animal farming on climate change
- Concerns about animal cruelty
- Human health issues
- Waste

World Farmed Animal Day: 2nd October 2019

Some 60 000 sheep are loaded onto the Al Shuwaikh for a 3 week nightmare journey to slaughter

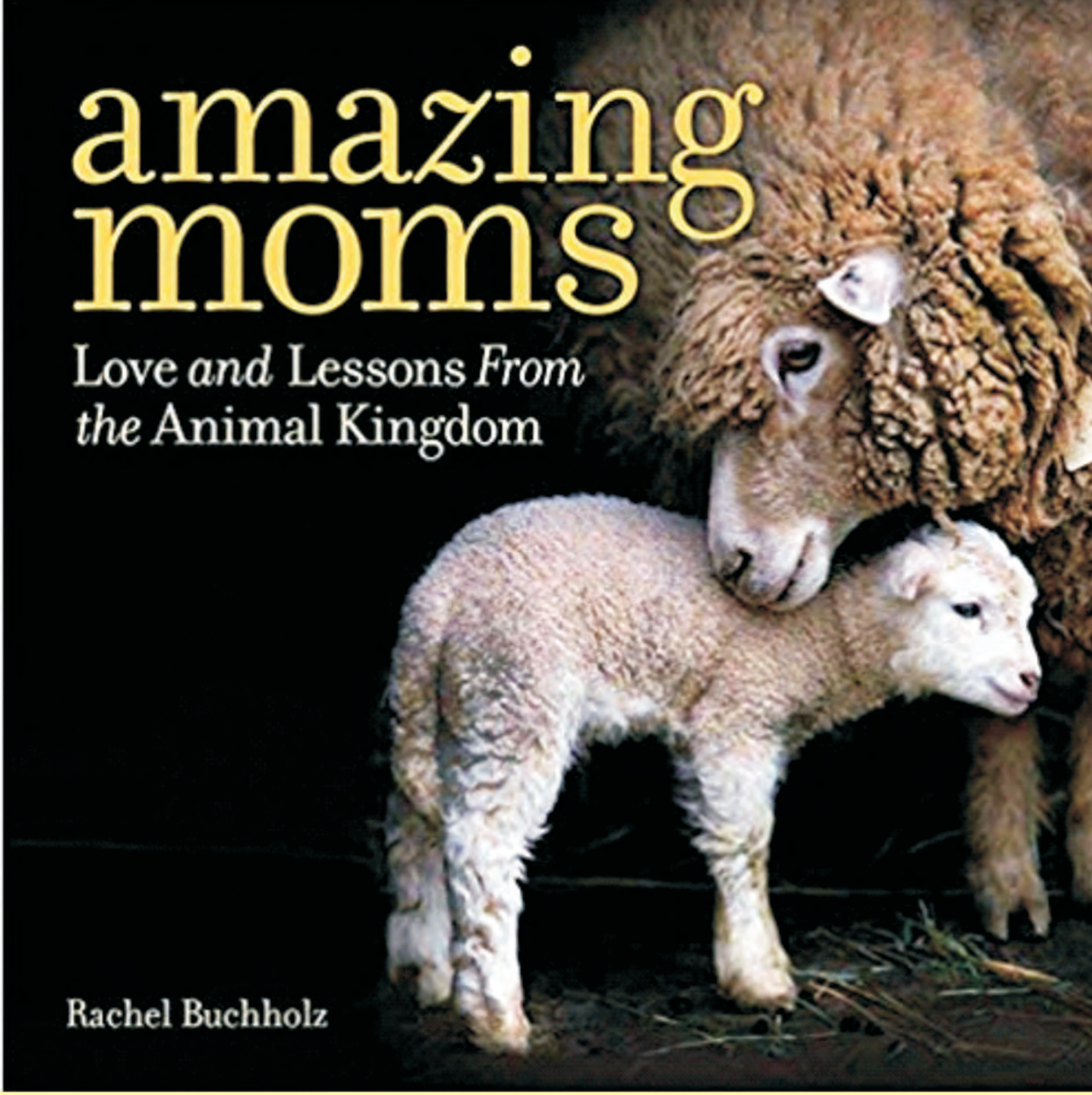
Tens of thousands of South African sheep are being sent on a journey of unspeakable suffering – a journey of three weeks across the Indian Ocean to Kuwait, for slaughter.

On Sunday, 15 September 2019, while the livestock carrier **Al Shuwaikh** was still making its way down the east coast of Africa heading for our port of East London, the documentary programme **Carte Blanche** showed footage of long distance transport to slaughter - thousands of sheep crammed into pens, knee deep in their own urine, unable to breathe properly, in excruciating suffering. Presenter **Derek Watts** said some footage was so extreme that it could not be shown, including ewes aborting their lambs because of stress and sheep drowning in their own waste.

During the programme, Marcelle Meredith, chief executive of the NSPCA, vowed to take the South African government to court if it gave the go-ahead to the live export trade in South African animals to the Middle East for slaughter. According to Carte Blanche, Australia has banned the transport of its sheep to the Middle East between June and September after losing 2400 who died of heat stress. In view of this loss of business, the owners of the Al Shuwaikh livestock carrier turned to South Africa to fill the gap – signing up for the export of millions of South African sheep, goats and cattle over the next five years. Farmer Bruce Page is alleged to be the facilitator responsible for providing the animals. He allegedly told Carte Blanche that he sourced the animals from emerging farmers.

At 2pm on October 2, the Port Authority in East London confirmed to Animal Voice that the loading of the sheep was in progress and the departure of the Al Shuwaikh was expected overnight or the next day.

Let us give our support to the NSPCA by signing its petition to stop this appalling trade signing the petition



A Beautiful Must Read!

Amazing Moms: Love and Lessons from the Animal Kingdom
by Rachel Buchholz

Available at Amazon.com

"They are not brethren, they are not underlings: they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of the earth." – *Henry Beston*

Leading proponents for reform in our treatment of nonhuman animals gather at the University of Cape Town to map the way forward.

The *Cape Town Animal Conference 2019* took place on September 14 and 15 and was co-organised by the Animal Coalition of Southern Africa, We are Animals, Animal Law Reform South Africa (ALRSA) and Center for Animal Law Studies at Lewis & Clark, Law School (CALS).

BELOW ARE GLIMPSES INTO SOME OF THE PRESENTATIONS

Prominent SA academic **Les Mitchell** is an *Alternatives to Violence* facilitator. The violence inherent in the human domination of animals starts in our heads, he said, and dissipates with a shift in our thought processes. *"We are in a struggle about nothing less than the construction of reality itself."*
To better understand the deep roots of violence, read his mind-shifting new book titled ***Landscape of the damned.***
Contact Les: les@peacecaravan.co.za

Kenyan advocate **Jim Karani** who specialises in animal protection with particular focus on the human/wildlife conflict, asked: *"Isn't it about time that we open up some of the land to wildlife? We need to have land use that is compatible with wildlife through zoning."*

Elisa Galgut
University of Cape Town philosophy lecturer Elisa Galgut called for transparency in animal experimentation. *"Experimentation at universities around South Africa is funded by public money. Let there be transparency regarding the nature of the experiments and how many animals die."*

Werner Scholtz
Professor of Law at the University of the Western Cape, Werner Scholtz called for global reform whereby humanity moves from the Anthropocentric management of our planet, to living in harmony with the environment and biosphere. "We must erode human dominance and move away from the catastrophic approach that we have followed for 5000 years."

Sheena Swemmer
Sheena Swemmer, attorney and head of the Gender Programme at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, Wits University, said she would advocate for changes in the law so that the intersection of violence against women, children and animals becomes integrated into domestic violence legislation. *"There is a scourge of violence against women and children in this country and we can assume this is also so for companion animals in the home. The shocking thing is that our victims of violence become violent themselves. Violence is about power and children subjected to violence try to regain control. They redirect their anger and exert*

violence on those they see as less powerful than themselves – often this is an animal."
Legal options to consider, she said, included:

* Protection orders for abused animals in the household
* Making it a crime not to report animal abuse in the household
* Establishing a special court for animal abuse cases
* Establishing a list of animal abuse offenders that is open to the public
* Perhaps following the route set out in some states of the USA whereby vets have to report acts of violence against animals to social welfare authorities

Amy Wilson

Amy Wilson, a director of Animal Law Reform South Africa, said: *"We are tied into a legal system of oppression of nonhuman animals, a system in which we are all complicit and which has failed us, and continues to fail us on a daily basis."*

She said water pollution and the climate crisis were examples of how the cruelty inherent in industrialised animal agriculture impacted severely on humans.
"When we commodify and dominate animals, they are not the only victims, humans are too. There is a strong link between the interests of humans and the interests of animals and we need to integrate this into our legal system, policy and education. Human rights are enriched when we give consideration to the interests of animals."

Jenni Trethowan

Jenni Trethowan, founder of Baboon Matters Trust, said: *"If we are talking about law reform, the baboons have to come in right up near the top. We treat them so appallingly. They are not 'owned' so they are not covered by the Animals Protection Act.*

They are judged and killed as criminals. One of the most urgent things is the way paintball guns are used on them.

"The City of Cape Town has employed a service provider to create a 'landscape of fear' using paintball guns to frighten off the baboons. What sort of message are we giving our children when they see full-grown men in uniform chasing baboons and shooting them with paintball guns? Recently a young female was sitting on a roof in Kleinmond."
A witness saw her being shot with a pellet gun and when we took her lifeless body to our vet, seven pellets were found in her. The list of atrocities against baboons goes on and on. There is a farmer who threw a baboon into a cage together with his dogs to rile them up. She was torn to pieces. In all these instances, and despite witness accounts and video footage, there are no prosecutions."

David Bilchitz

Law Professor and Constitutional Law expert David Bilchitz said: *"Animals are unable to defend their interests against human power. We have to move to a society where violence is not acceptable neither to humans nor animals. Animals are still consigned to the category of things or objects and if there is a clash between human interests and animal interests, the animal will always lose."*

He said the SA government had adopted an attitude of colonial exploitation of animals. *"We need to confront this and treat animals with value in their own right. They are entitled to a dignified existence without suffering."*

He added that a radical shift was underway in South African law regarding the welfare of animals. *"But we are only at the beginning. We need to challenge (cruelty) step by step."*

Andrew Rowan
Founder and President:
WellBeing International

Dr Rowan said: *"I think it is just appalling that we are farming lions. There is something appalling about this that I can't really express."*
See: www.wellbeingintl.org
Solutions for people, animals and environment

Louise van der Merwe
Animal Voice editor and Humane Education specialist, said: *"Imagine a world where the basic building blocks of our IQ –our ABC's and 123's - are removed from the curriculum. The very thought makes no sense. So what about the building blocks of our EQ? The Five Freedoms for Animals are a fundamental building block of our EQ and our education authorities should give the Five Freedoms the kind of clout that plastic pollution of our seas has received recently."*

There are approximately 7979 Lions in captivity in 366 facilities in South Africa

Driven from her habitat

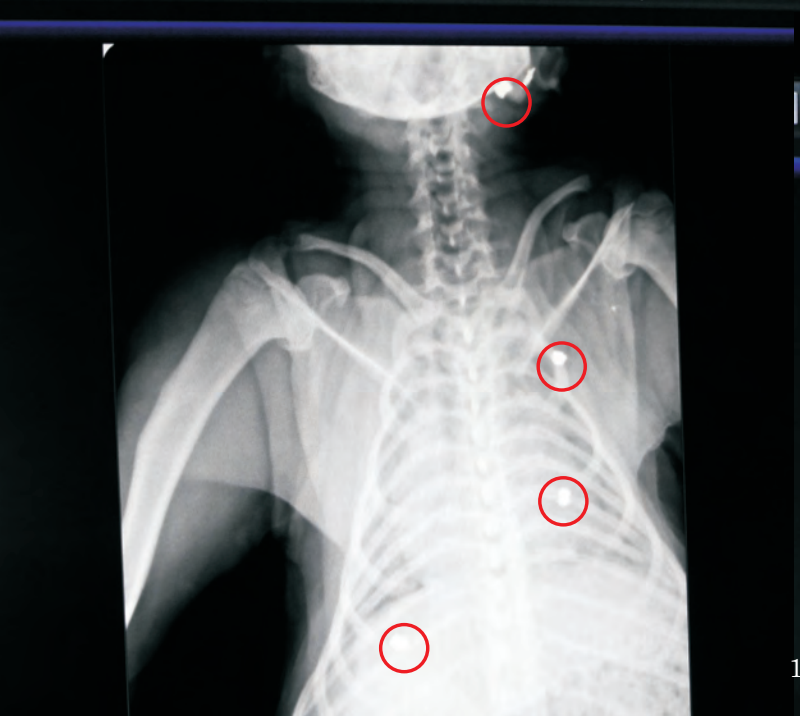
Struck on the face by a paintball

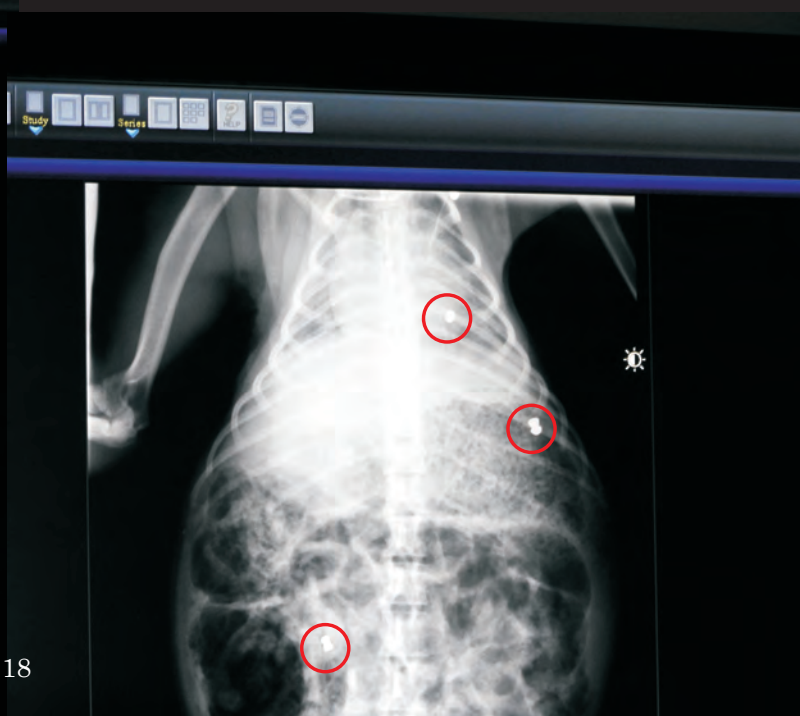
Tormented by an outrageously big collar

ANIMALS NEED LAWYERS

Photos courtesy Jenni Trethowan: *Baboon Matters*

Shot 7 times with a pellet gun, this little baboon died of her wounds





South Africa's Constitutional Court judges are UNANIMOUS...

- **Animals have intrinsic value as individuals**
- **Animals are sentient beings capable of suffering and experiencing pain**
- **Guardianship of the interests of animals reflects constitutional values and the interests of society at large**
- **Animal protection safeguards the moral status of humans and the degeneration of human values**

The Constitutional Court struck a chord of triumph for animals as well as human morality on Thursday, 8 December 2016 with the handing down of a unanimous judgment acknowledging that ***animals have intrinsic value as individuals.***

In handing down judgment, ConCourt Judge Sisi Khampepe, representing a full bench of nine judges, said: "the rationale behind protecting animal welfare has shifted from merely safeguarding the moral status of humans, to placing intrinsic value on animals as individuals."

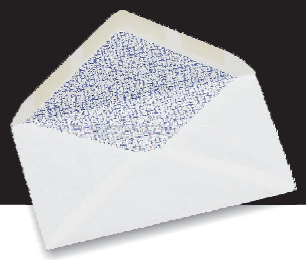
She pointed to previous judgements which had ruled that the status of an animal as 'property' did not entitle the infliction of suffering. While the objective of the Animals Protection Act had initially been to prohibit acts of cruelty that may offend finer sensibilities in society, it also served to prevent the "degeneration of human values".

The judgement concluded a six-year court battle by the NSPCA for the right to institute a private prosecution in the event of the National Prosecuting Authority declining to prosecute in any particular case.

The ConCourt Judges who took this historic step forward for justice are: Judges Nkabinde, Cameron, Froneman, Jafta, Khampepe, Madlanga, Mhlantla, Musi and Zondo.

The Humane Education Trust
P O Box 825, Somerset West, 7129, South Africa
Tel: 021 852 8160 E-mail: avoice@yebo.co.za
http://animalvoiceacademy.org/

OPEN LETTER to South Africa's Heads of Education



The brutality experienced in the world today resides somewhere deep within the human psyche, in a place where the heart has been excluded from our decision-making, in a place where Emotional Intelligence (EQ) has been stifled by our education system because the development of EQ is seen as a 'soft' subject, unlike science, technology, mathematics, robotics and coding.

Society has paid the cruel price of a global education system that for generations has viewed gentleness as weakness, selfishness as realism, compassion as mostly politically incorrect unless directed exclusively at humans.

This is why the television interview on eNCA on 31 July 2019 with MEC for Education in Gauteng, **Minister Panyaza Lesufi,** was uplifting. He said that the 'soft' subjects (to use his word) had to become a focal point in education as we navigate the future.

It's not that this is something new. More than 2000 years ago, Aristotle put it this way: *"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all."* But it is something that is critical to the very time we are living in now, as we are forced, each of us, to own responsibility for ecological collapse and the violence we see, hear and feel all around us on such a massive scale.

The United Nations' development goal for education states that by 2030 all learners must "acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development." It is safe to say that sustainable development will simply never be achieved unless the skills of the heart are nurtured and developed to become a vital component in all decision-making.

So how do we set about redefining our humanity? It starts with the very young being given an understanding that care and respect for each other, the animals and nature itself, is what gives us our human dignity.

> **"Deep emotions are expressed in the heart and there is a powerful mind-heart connection. We now know that there is an immense amount of neural innovation that comes from the brain stem into the heart – and that it's a two-way street."**
> *– James Doty, brain surgeon and founder of the Centre for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education at the Stanford University School of Medicine.*

Without care and respect, there is no dignity – only degradation.

In his international best-seller Emotional Intelligence: *Why it can matter more than IQ,* Daniel Goleman uncovers the immense social cost of being emotionally 'tone-deaf' and I would like to alert our education authorities to the contents of this book.

I have written to Mr Lesufi, as well as to Brian Schreuder, Head of Education in the Western Cape, requesting an interview regarding their thoughts on the development of EQ in education.

At the time of going to print, I had not received a reply from either one.

Louise van der Merwe
Managing Trustee
The Humane Education Trust

Louise van der Merwe (left) was invited to present Humane Education's work at the *Sixth Annual Oxford Animal Ethics Summer School* between 21 – 24 July this year.
The focus: ***Humane Education - Increasing Sensitivity to Animals and Humans.***

She says: *"Being part of this event was the absolute high point of Humane Education's three-decades of endeavour for a kinder world. I learned so much from it."*

Louise thanks **Clair Linzey,** deputy director of the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics, for hosting this immensely inspirational event, attracting delegates from all over the world.

Our thanks too to Clair's father, Reverend Professor **Andrew Linzey,** the centre's founder and director, and Louise's inspiration for all of 30 years.

Centre's website: www.oxfordanimalethics.com
Journal of Animal Ethics:
http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/jane.html

No elephant should endure CAPTIVITY

Sadly, government representatives declined the invitation to attend the first ever African discussion in elephant capture and captivity held by the EMS Foundation in Hermanus on 6th September 2019.

Below *Animal Voice* records the comments of some of the internationally acknowledged elephant experts who attended the conference:

Gut-wrenching footage showed the brutal capture of a baby elephant, ripped from the peace of a herd by a low-flying helicopter and darted in full view of his desperate mother.

Michele Pickover, founder and director of the EMS Foundation and a South African icon for inclusive justice:
"A war of attrition is being waged against our elephants. As a species they are on the precipice of annihilation."

Dr Don Pinnock, Chairperson and well-known South African writer, journalist and photographer:
"There is a tight link between ivory and slavery. 20 000 African elephants are killed annually. Elephants are refugees in their own country. In captivity, they are prisoners, confined for our human pleasure."

Chief Stephen Fritz, South Peninsula Customary Khoi Council:
"Elephants are a sacred animal to the Khoi San nation. Elephants were born to be free – like all of us."

Dr Joyce Poole, Elephant Voices:
"What happens to the psychological wellbeing of elephants when they are held captive? The very foundations of an elephant's life is space. There is a connection between moral degradation of humans and the enslavement of animals."

Dr Keith Lindsay, Conservation Biologist:
"Elephants are a keystone species. Captive conditions means a life without meaning for the elephant."

Audrey Delsink Kettles, Wildlife Director of Humane Society Internation/Africa:
"109 Zimbabwe elephants are currently in captivity in Dubai and China. This, in a day and age when we know elephants exhibit PTSD and the world is even considering personhood for elephants."

Dr Yolanda Pretorius, Elephant Specialist Advisory Group:
"There are roughly 28 000 elephants in South Africa, 78% in the greater Kruger National Park and the rest in small fragmented reserves. The consequences of holding elephants captive in small spaces is stereotypic behaviours like head bobbing and/or rocking - like somebody in an asylum. Back in the wild, these behaviours disappear."

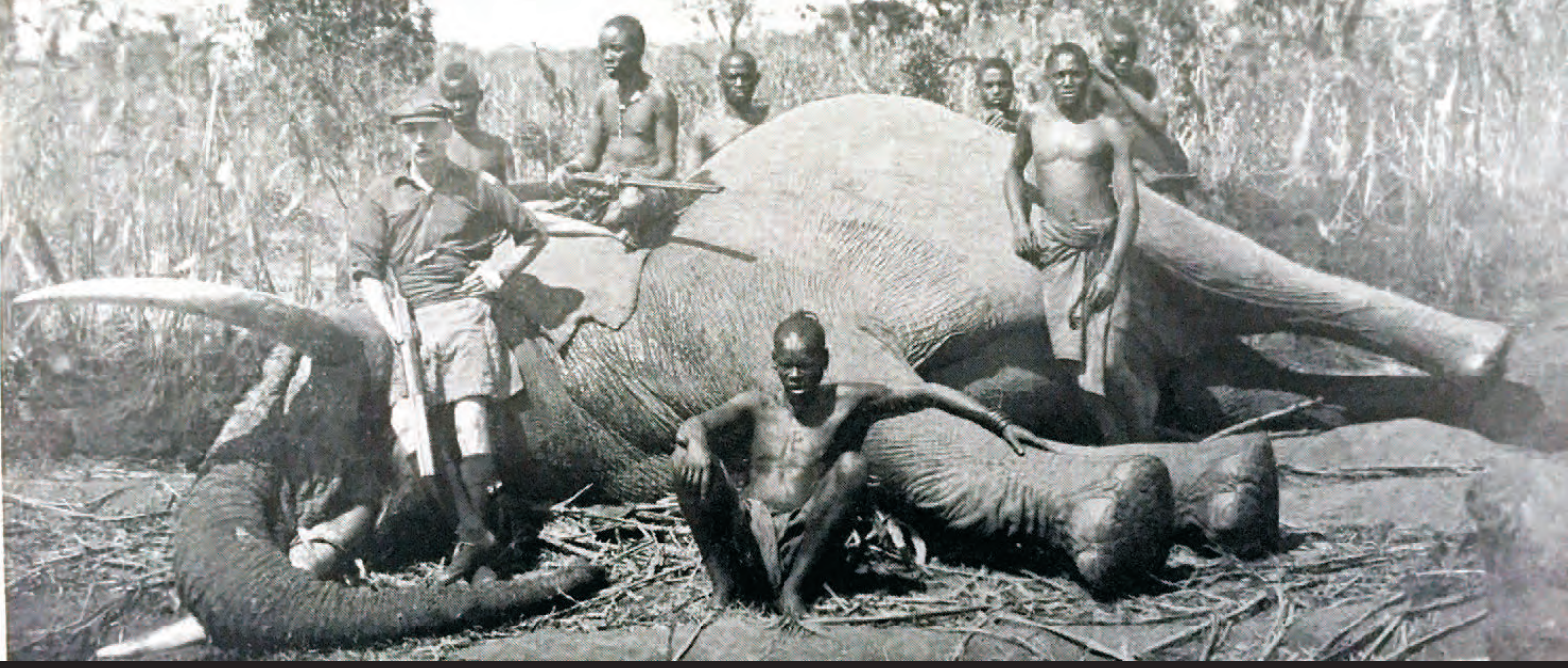
Antoinette van der Water, Bring the Elephant Home: "We need to change our way of thinking and instead of putting a price tag on an elephant's head, we need to recognise their right to exist in peace."

Brett Mitchell, Elephant Reintegration Trust: "We need to reintegrate captive elephants back into the wild and do what is morally right for elephants. There needs to be a shift in our mind set."

Kenesias Dambakurima, Voices for African Wildlife: Extract from his poem to the Elephant Nation

Time to Face the Problem
Poaching, canned-hunting, culling
Trophy hunting, the threat to animals
Wildlife crisis
Are these not just symptoms that we are fighting?
We can't keep talking, talking and talking
Fighting the symptoms and ignoring the sources
It's time to face the problem
And eliminate the root cause
End the plight OF OUR WILDLIFE
Our animals, our birds and our fish
Where trade is the root, trafficking the source, and humans the cure.
Yes there's a fine distinction
Between traffic and trade
A fine line of human permission and law
Trafficking and trade and exportation
Of wild and tame sentient creatures
That we steal
That we breed
For mythical medical enhancements of human virility
We, humans, cause so much pain
It is time to face the problem head-on
Destroy the root cause
Eliminate the symptoms
Save the animals
Save us all
It is time to face the problem
It's time to roar.

For more info: www.emsfoundation.org.za OR contact stefania@emsfoundation.org.za



ANIMALS NEED LAWYERS

My *Happy* *Sad* Chicken Story

by Anina van der Westhuizen

I became aware of the plight of laying hens some 10 years ago when I visited an author to have a book autographed. She told me that she rescued ten end-of-lay hens around every 20 months; that she provided a good environment for them which allowed them to live out the last couple of years of their lives with dignity as free ranging, happy chickens. The idea appealed to me, but I wasn't ready for the commitment at the time.

Now many years later, after being reminded daily of the cruelty to chickens, I decided it was time to rescue four laying hens and at the same time they would provide eggs for the household and I could stop buying from the supermarket (and supporting the cruel egg industry).

I was told that these hens are sold off to the poorer communities on a Friday and that I would be able to buy them there. Zandspruit informal settlement is nearby me and I have driven past the live chicken sale stand on many Saturdays.

On Saturday, 1 June, I sent a friend to buy the chickens as I was worried that if I went myself, I might come home with ALL the chickens. I gave clear instructions that he must ask for laying hens and NOT meat chickens (broilers). I had been informed that these chickens are genetically profiled to gain weight to such an extent that around 10 weeks their bodies become too heavy for their legs and they literally just collapse and can't walk anymore. What a horror.

Well, he arrived with my four chickens in two boxes and I had prepared an enclosure for them to settle down in. When we opened them up they were very scared. My friend told me that they had been handled very roughly by their wings. They were very unstable on their legs. First thing I did was pour a dish of fresh water for them. They were completely dehydrated and drank for about 10 minutes. I have never seen anything like it. They drank to the point where they became sick and the water came back up.

Arriving home very unstable on their little legs.

I immediately took pictures and sent it to Louise (at Animal Voice). She replied that they looked like broiler chickens, to which I replied that my friend had been assured that they were Leghorns. A little apprehension crept in. I let them be and checked in on them a few times during the afternoon. One stayed in the box turned on its side, one hid under the rabbit hutch and the other two crammed into the bottom part of the rabbit hutch (my temporary chicken coop).

I had ordered a R3000 chicken coop over the internet and was awaiting delivery. It was obvious that two were bonded and were probably from the same cage and the other two were strangers.

Very thirsty chickens – needed a much bigger water bowl!

Exploring a bit and discovering the compost heap

That night I dreamt about chickens. The following morning, I rushed out very early to look for eggs. To my utter dismay I found not a single egg, significantly strengthening my suspicion that I definitely didn't buy end-of-lay hens. After further discussion with Louise, I established for sure that I had ended up with broiler chickens. I was devastated and overwhelmed.

I did not think I could handle hanging on to the chickens, only to have them collapse after a few weeks. I considered all sorts of options – the one as unacceptable as the other.

Thank goodness for the information age and Google. I started doing research and found a few success stories of people who managed to keep these broiler chickens alive, with seemingly good quality of life. A little hope crept in. I found the website for Chicken Rescue and Rehabilitation, which provided lots of solid information. I also found contact details for Candace in Johannesburg. I sent her a message at 07:00 in the morning because I was so desperate. She responded immediately – bless her – and she was just a mine of information, which she shared freely with me – from food to shelter. The 3 storey, R3000 chicken coop order

The next morning.

In the courtyard

had to be cancelled and replaced by a one-story doghouse. Two bales of hay to serve as a soft mattress, laying pellets, etc.

Interestingly all the (logical) assumptions I had made were wrong. Don't restrict their food – they will just feel like they are starving all the time. Don't try to exercise them – it will just increase their chances of injuries. We ended at: let them be happy and free, feed them enough and provide adequate shelter for them and take it one day at a time.

The first night I caught them and carried them into their new "special needs" chicken coop. The second night when I went outside to put them away for the night, I discovered to my surprise that they were already inside – my clever chickens!
At first, because of their clumsy waddling, I thought that they would not walk around the 1100 m2 garden much and would stay in one place. Much to my surprise soon they were exploring the whole garden. I worried about them falling in the swimming pool and drowning, so tried to shoo them away from the pool.

How much joy I have already had from my four beautiful chickens

After the first week I let them out of the enclosure and into my back quartyard where there is a small patch of grass. Every day they became more at ease. When the doghouse arrived during the second week, I moved them to the front garden. Their happiness level increased notably.

They would not be intimidated, but I need not to have worried, my clever chickens never fell in the pool.
I am not sure how much they manage to forage from the garden, so they get a cup of laying pellets for breakfast, lunch and dinner, with some supplemental chopped veg at night.

Their new special needs chicken coop.

Discovering the garden

Enjoying the garden

On Thursday, 29 August 2019, exactly 3 months after their arrival, I came home from work to find my beautiful rooster with a dislocated leg. When he saw me he tried to hobble closer – heart-breaking.

I picked him up and put him in a box and drove to the vet with a very heavy hart. He was so scared in the car and at the vet. The process at the vet was slow and stressful. I tried to comfort him and let him know it would be okay. I apologised for what we humans are doing. I cried.

RIP my beautiful boy – I will miss your morning wake-up calls.

And now there are three.
We are still taking it one day at a time.

Anina van der Westhuizen

Once a week I feed them some bone meal which they LOVE and go absolutely mental for.

My chickens are always happy to see me and feeding time has become the highlight of our day.

Soon I noticed that one of the “hens” looked a bit different and I also started hearing strange noises from the garden. It transpired that one of the “hens” turned out to be a rooster and he was finding his voice – so funny and cute. At the same time, I felt some anxiety as I remembered reading that the roosters get bigger much quicker than the hens, so his life expectancy would not be very long at all.

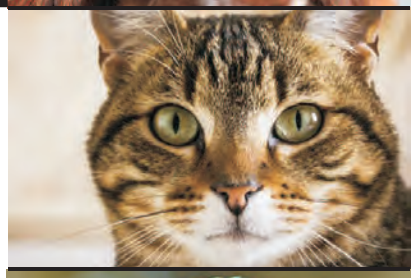
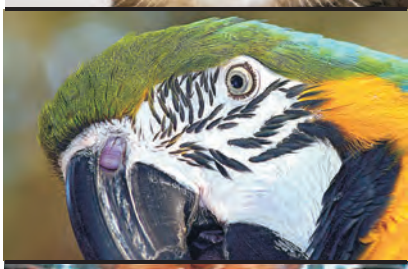
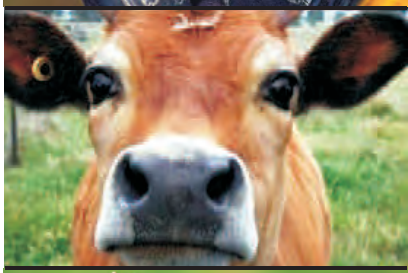
Once he got the hang of crowing, he really made himself heard – he had a lot to say. Over the long weekend in August I sent a message to my neighbours asking them to please be patient with his one o’clock in the morning crowing. Fortunately they were very understanding.

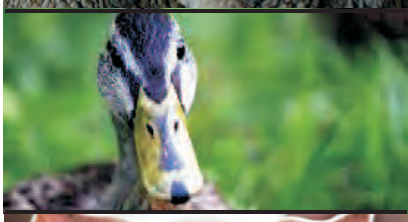
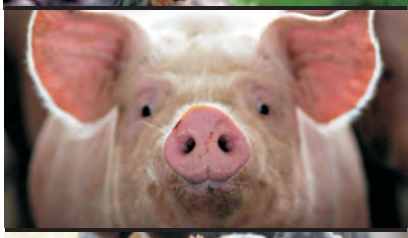
My last picture of the four of them together

- **The largest poultry company in the US slaughters 9 million broilers per day**
- **The top three companies in Brazil slaughter 13 million broilers per day**
- **China slaughters 36 million broilers per day**
- **South Africa slaughters 3.8 million broilers per day**

Information courtesy: South African Poultry Association Media Release, 18 September 2019

South Africa's future defenders of nonhuman rights

Part of the *Animal Conference Cape Town 2019* was an essay competition set by *Animal Law Reform South Africa (ALRSA)* and supported by the *Center for Animal Law Studies at Lewis & Clark Law School (CALS).*
Open to any student registered at a South African university, the topic had to be broadly about **Justice for Animals in South Africa and Beyond.**

The WINNER of the 2019 Justice for Animals Award was *Jess du Toit* for her essay titled *'In the name of Science – Animal Appellations and Best Practice.'* As winner, Jess also received a cash grant sponsored by CALS.

Jessica du Toit, Independent Researcher, currently a 1st year PhD student (Philosophy) at Western University in London, ON (Canada)

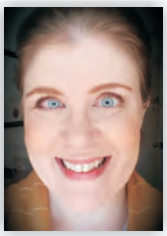
"The practice of giving animal research subjects proper names is frowned upon by the academic scientific community. While researchers provide a number of reasons for avoiding this practice, the most common are that 1) naming leads to anthropomorphising which, in turn, leads to data and results that are un-objective and invalid; and 2) while naming does not necessarily entail some mistake on the researcher's part, some feature of the research enterprise renders the practice impossible or ill-advised. I argue that neither 1) nor 2) usually constitutes good reason to desist from naming animal research subjects. Thus, researchers seldom have good reason to desist from naming their animal subjects. In fact, there are usually powerful reasons in favour of their giving their research animals proper names. This is because the practice usually leads to improved animal well-being and so to better animal science."

The RUNNER UP was Sifiso Ndlazi, for his essay titled *'Justice for Animals in South Africa.'* As runner up, Sifiso also receives a cash grant sponsored by CALS.

Sifiso Ndlazi
University of Johannesburg
B.Com Law, Third-year LLB

"I have always felt the duty to take care of my surroundings and the well-being of animals. My paper raised a lot of questions as to how we should challenge the status quo, give consideration to how we are bound as humans to take care of our environment, and the government's ability to provide security for animals."

Anna-Leigh La Reservee
University of Pretoria: Onderstepoort Veterinary Campus
3rd year: Veterinary Science
Essay title: *A Jack and Jenny Story - Savage Slaying for Skin*
"The essence of my essay is to highlight the importance of the South African donkey in our economy. People rely on them for transport and to make a living. They are an essential part of making our country what it is, as we are known for our animals and wildlife. It highlights the heart ache many people are facing as stock theft is increasingly thriving and the brutal slaughter of our donkeys is becoming common practice to make a Chinese medicine called Ejiao."



Megan Griffiths
University of South Africa
DLitt et Phil Criminology
Essay title: *Speciesism: human supremacy and the animal afterthought*
"Traditionally viewed as property and in relation to their significance to people, animals do not have adequate protection under law. As a result, they are vulnerable to neglect and abuse, and those that abuse them may face minimal consequences. Although the welfare of animals should not be prioritised over that of people, an intersectionality exists between various civil rights issues, as it is challenging to address one type of marginalisation without addressing all of them."

Taylor June Kruger
University of Pretoria
First year Bachelor of Veterinary Science
Essay title: *The Plight of African Wildlife*
"From poaching and illegal trafficking to disease outbreaks, there are numerous problems seen by those who deal with wildlife on a daily basis. My message was clear: wildlife in South Africa is something worth cherishing and we must maintain the wild places we still have left."

Patricia Mapipi-Julieyvna
University of Cape Town postgraduate student in Philosophy (Honours)
Essay title: *Is there a way to successfully separate all and only humans from all other animals with regard to their moral considerability?* "We are brought up to make distinctions (between humans and nonhumans) using criteria such as the ability to be rational, weild language, be autonomous beings, etc. This needs to be disrupted."

Bryan Buchler
Bryan Buchler
University of Cape Town
Final Year Post-Graduate LLB
Essay title: *Animals are Legal Person Too*
"Animals should be included within the protections of the Bill of Rights. My paper asserts that the inclusion of animals within the Bill of Rights should be progressively realized."

Legal Triumph!

Meet Sandra!
She's been granted the same legal right to liberty as you and me!

After 20 years in an Argentine zoo, 33-year-old Sandra is being moved to a 100-acre sanctuary in Florida, USA, home to other primates who have been freed from circuses, laboratories, zoos and private ownership.

Her opportunity for a new beginning follows a hard-won legal battle for her freedom and makes Sandra Argentina's first “nonhuman person, with the right to liberty”.

Judge Elena Liberatori - who has a picture of Sandra in her office - told AP news agency she wanted her ruling to send a message: "That animals are sentient beings and that the first right they have is our obligation to respect them."

Sandra was born in an East German zoo and sold to Buenos Aires in 1995. She spent much of her life in a solitary enclosure and regularly tried to avoid the public. She had a daughter in 1999, but the baby was taken away from her and sold to an animal park in China.

Her legal victory has brought her international fame and sets a precedent for apes to be legally deemed people rather than property.

See https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-49856859

He aint heavy, he's my brother

Marcbekoff.com

Prolific author and world acclaimed research scientist on nonhuman cognition and emotion, **Marc Bekoff** speaks to **Kai Horsthemke** about his new book *Animal Rights Education.*

(This is adapted from an article that appeared in the August issue of Psychology Today. To read the full article, go to: https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/animal-emotions/201908/animal-centered-education-students-all-ages?eml)

Kai Horsthemke is an Associate Professor and teaches Philosophy of Education at KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, in Germany and is also a Visiting Professor at the Wits School of Education, Johannesburg.

Marc Bekoff: *Your new book Animal Rights Education is a compelling read advocating a new branch of education for students of all ages.*

Kai Horsthemke: Yes, I focus on the moral implications and the educational imperative that results from knowing there is a psychological and physical continuity between humans and other animals. It is logical that anti-racist and anti-sexist education must proceed to address anti-speciesist education too. In addition there is a logical link between human rights education and animal rights education. Human rights education cannot be to the exclusion of animal rights education.

Marc Bekoff: *What would a curriculum focusing on animal rights look like?*

Kai Horsthemke: First and foremost, there would be a section on the biological and psychological continuity between humans and other animals. The next section would arguably examine the moral implications of such continuity and would comprise a study of anthropocentric and non-anthropocentric theories. Finally, animal rights theory would be introduced as one type of non-anthropocentric theory. Rights for animals, not just empathy and compassion, must form the backbone of this new education.

Marc Bekoff: *Are you hopeful that educating people, especially perhaps youngsters, will benefit other animals in a world in which billions each year suffer and die at the hands of humans, mostly for human ends?*

Kai Horsthemke: I do believe that education is key. Young people are beginning to realize that they are ideally placed to do something about the state of the world and the common future they share with all life-forms. As educators and parents, it is important to remember that we, too, have not only grown but have changed, undergone some kind of transformation. We are no longer who we used to be. Almost all of us once ate meat and other animal products, and some of us might have dissected animals in school and even experimented on living animals in university laboratories. Some of us may have hurt and even killed animals. It is important to signal to children, learners, and students that, while it is not possible to undo the wrongs we have committed, they are not alone in their moral struggles with their changing identities.

This understanding can happen through informal discussion forums, offering vegan food options in school canteens and lunchrooms, as well as alternatives to dissection in school science labs, and also through making available information to learners and students about the lives and deaths of animals, about available alternatives to the use of animals in a wide variety of contexts, and thereby enhancing learners' and students' capacities for empathy, sympathy and critical reflection and engagement.

Helping them make educated decisions about their own lives is arguably the most generative way of making what is left of our planet a better place, also (and importantly) for other animals.

To read more on this story, go to: https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/animal-emotions/201908/animal-centered-education-students-all-ages?eml

17 September 2019

Mrs Louise van der Merwe
Managing Trustee
The Humane Education Trust
P O Box 825
Somerset West
7129

Dear Mrs van der Merwe

COMMUNITY CHEST DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/2020:

The Humane Education Trust

We have the pleasure in informing you that your organisation has been deemed legally **COMPLIANT** during our Due Diligence Assessment Process.

Congratulations on receiving your legal compliance status. This compliance is based on the vetting of your statutory documents submitted to Community Chest.

We appreciate your collaboration with this online assessment process during 2019.

Your certificate is valid from 1 April 2019 until 31 March 2020. The original certificate will be posted to the above address.

We remain committed to serving you diligently.

Kind regards

Lorenzo Davids

Chief Executive Officer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | Lorenzo Davids
DIRECTORS | Carol Fleurs-Goddard – Chairman | Mike Bosazza – Deputy Chairman | Alan Woolfson | Charleen Duncan | Colin Daries | Dr Shirley Zinn | Edgar Adams | Grant Gunston | Jerome Levendal | Meko Magida | Michael Cornelius

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Section 18A Fund | PBO Number 130002437 | 016-287 NPO Non-Section 18A Fund | PBO Number 130000021 | 003-040 NPO

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For more information, contact Louise 021 852 8160 or vivienne@caringclassrooms.co.za

Peta Exposé on Animal Experimentation:

Mice are being driven to nightmarish levels of fear in experiments designed to induce terror, panic and despair, as part of medical research into depression in humans.

For further information, Google PETA'S "Never before seen video taken by government experimenters!"

(Note from Ed: the images are beyond what I can force myself to view).