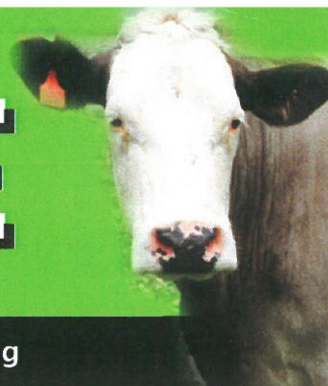


ANIMALVOICE



Official mouthpiece in South Africa for Compassion in World Farming

Proudly
Humane
and
Loving it!



Chloe Rutgers (7)
displays her certificate
in *Humane Education*.

Standing with her is
'Teacher Vivienne'
who believes that
*"dignity begins in the
heart and in today's
world, it is seeded by
Humane Education."*

(See Page 8)

Also included in this issue:

- **Portraits in blood!** Michaelis art student explains.
- **24 million boy chicks wasted!**
- **Humane Education Teacher's Guide - order a copy for a local school.**
- **Poultry industry:**
Phase-out battery cages!
It's the right thing to do!
- Download our fabulous screensaver.
- **Why calves need us to pay a little more for dairy.**

Increasing Our Compassionate Footprint

COMPASSION  SA
in world farming

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<http://www.humane-education.org.za>
Email: avoice@yebo.co.za

Compassion in World Farming HQ
<http://www.ciwf.org>

December 2013

The release of breeding sows from crates, is consumer driven and it's happening!

SA Consumers...
**You did it
for the pigs!**



One of the cruellest inventions of factory farming – a metal 'straightjacket' called a crate or stall – is on its way out...



Scott Wiggill, marketing manager of **Big Dutchman**, a major supplier of pig and poultry equipment in South Africa, has confirmed that the phase-out of sow crates is underway with a "large number" of local producers having already converted to group sow systems.

"This is consumer driven," said **Mr Wiggill**. "The consumer market is putting pressure on the pig industry to phase out crates."

"Although the *NSPCA* has stipulated 2016 as the date when the phase-out of crates must be complete, the industry itself has stipulated 2020 as the date. As from 1st January 2020 sows will still spend up to the first eight weeks of their pregnancies in crates in order to minimize stress (and enhance embryonic development for successful pregnancies), and then they will be transferred into group housing systems for the second half of their pregnancies."

Mr Wiggill added that it was "rewarding to see how group sow housing had improved the well-being of the sows" in that they were more relaxed.

Asked for his comments, **Mr Simon Streicher**, CEO of the *SA Pork Producers Organisation (SAPPO)*, told *Animal Voice*: "There is a huge and growing consumer movement for group housing and we realize that this is

something that needs to be done. That is why *SAPPO* has engaged farmers in this transition and we are very committed to the 2020 conversion date. It is difficult for emerging farmers to convert to group housing because the conversion process is extremely expensive (about R2000 a sow).

"However, *SAPPO* expects of its members to have converted by 2020 and if members have not complied by then, they will have to carry the consequences if animal welfare organizations decide to act against them," he said.

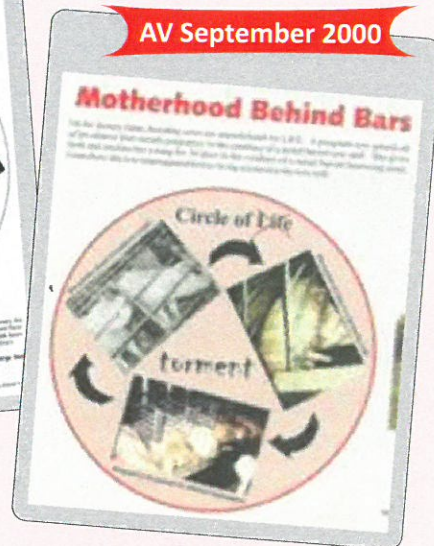
**There are about 104 000
breeding sows in South Africa
with almost half already
transferred into group
housing systems.**

Animal Voice and its supporters have spoken out vociferously for mother pigs for 16 years, urging consumers to lobby their supermarkets for lives worth living for pigs. They are still not on free-range, 'group housing' is a step forward...

AV Autumn 1999



AV September 2000



AV Aug - Nov 1997



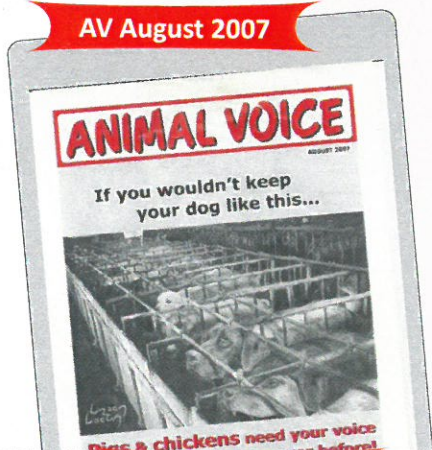
AV November 1998



Postcard Petitions (by the thousands!)

2002: *Animal Voice* releases heartbreaking undercover footage of sows in a factory farm on the Wine Route.

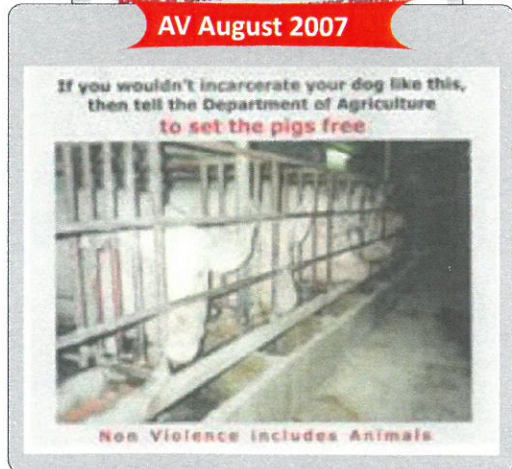
AV August 2007



AV December 2007



AV August 2007



2007: (left) 107 993 signatures handed over to the Department of Agriculture



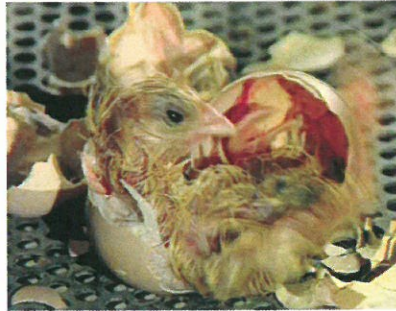
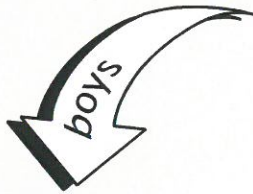
April 2011: Complaint to the Consumer Commission. We said keeping sows in crates is unconscionable and unethical and improper to a degree that is offensive and shocking.

December 2011: *Animal Voice* announces that Mr Streicher, on behalf of SAPPO, is committed to a phase-out of sow stalls

24 million laying hens are trapped in battery cages in South Africa.

Whether chicks are born male or female, there is...

Misery and Suffering either way



**At best,
gassed or
macerated
in this
machine**

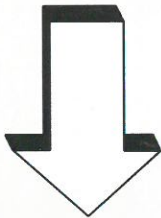


Photo: Courtesy SPCA

to become pulp



Photo: Courtesy SPCA

Her beak is cut
and cauterized to
fit her for life in a
battery cage



Incarcerated in a
barren and cramped
wire cage, she lays
an egg every
25 hours
for a year

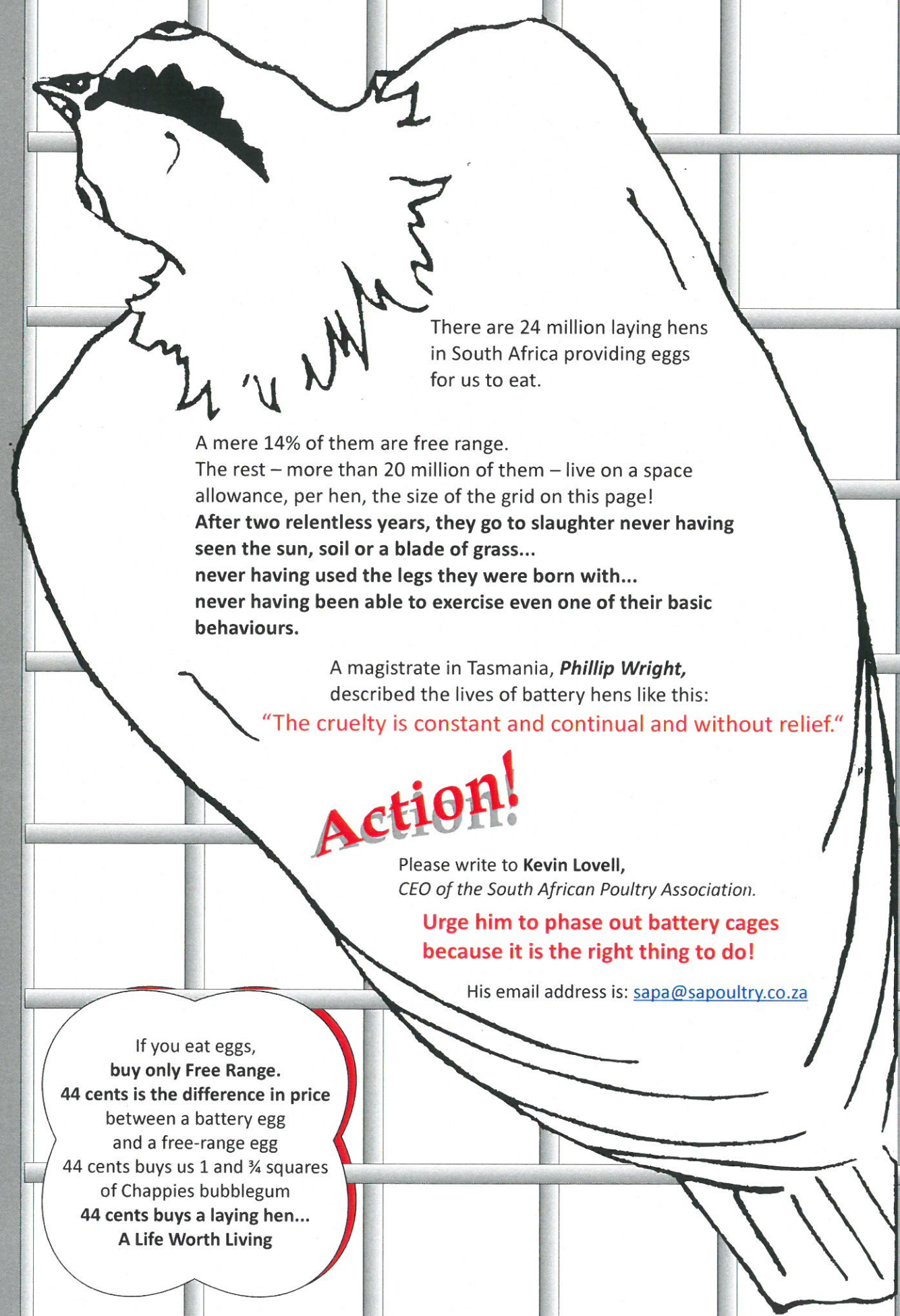


After a year she
is considered
"spent" and
lands up at a
"cull" outlet ...



... where
hawkers buy and
resell her to
impoverished
communities
for slaughter.





There are 24 million laying hens
in South Africa providing eggs
for us to eat.

A mere 14% of them are free range.
The rest – more than 20 million of them – live on a space
allowance, per hen, the size of the grid on this page!
**After two relentless years, they go to slaughter never having
seen the sun, soil or a blade of grass...
never having used the legs they were born with...
never having been able to exercise even one of their basic
behaviours.**

A magistrate in Tasmania, **Phillip Wright**,
described the lives of battery hens like this:

“The cruelty is constant and continual and without relief.”

Action!

Please write to **Kevin Lovell**,
CEO of the South African Poultry Association.

**Urge him to phase out battery cages
because it is the right thing to do!**

His email address is: sapa@sapoultry.co.za

If you eat eggs,
buy only Free Range.
44 cents is the difference in price
between a battery egg
and a free-range egg
44 cents buys us 1 and $\frac{3}{4}$ squares
of Chappies bubblegum
44 cents buys a laying hen...
A Life Worth Living

Portraits in Blood

Fine Arts student Saskia Opperman tells us why she painted portraits in blood...

Saskia shows *Animal Voice* editor, Louise, one of her portraits.

Saskia Opperman created a stir when she suggested to her

lecturers at the University of Cape Town's *Michaelis School of Art* that she use blood to paint her end-of-year assignment. The topic for the assignment was 'the relationship between humans and animals'.

"Some students chose to portray the loving relationship between humans and their pets," she told *Animal Voice* editor Louise van der Merwe. "I wanted to create a darker aspect. I wanted to cast light on something that everyone tries to avoid. My lecturers had rejected my

previous three ideas and I think I was in a dark space when I suggested using blood as a medium.

"At first they were shocked at the idea but they finally gave me the 'thumbs up' with the proviso that I do my paintings somewhere other than at Michaelis!"

Saskia said she decided to do portraits of farmed animals "because, typically, portraits are painted of the faces of people who we want to remember or of people we respect. "In creating the portraits of these animals, in blood, my aim was to represent as closely as possible, the relationship we have with them. I used blood as a medium purposefully to reintroduce people to the violence inherent in their everyday choices of meat. Meat is created in violence and I used the blood of violence to

paint violence," she said.

"Even if people don't change their eating habits, then at least they may have more awareness of the fact that what they are eating used to be a living, breathing being who could feel pain and terror and anguish. Consumers must change from being blindly ignorant to making conscious choices."

Saskia says her family thought her idea was a bit weird but supported her. "I wasn't sure where to get the blood from, so we went to the Pick n Pay slaughterhouse and asked for 2 litres of blood. **The butcher probably thought some vampire cult had descended on him** but I explained it was for an art assignment!"

"We kept the blood in separate buckets. I felt it was important for each portrait to be painted in the blood of its own species. I had to switch off mentally so as not to be freaked out by what I was doing.

"The smell was not as overwhelming as I thought it would be although it sticks in your nose and down your throat. It smelt like dog biscuits." Saskia said she expected the blood to be thick but it was translucent like working in watercolours. "It took so many layers to get anything darker than a pale brown. It took 20 layers to get the nostrils dark enough," she said.

Left: another of Saskia's submissions: 23 kiln-fired white stoneware panties hanging on a washing line.

"I hung them at chest height so you had to go around or under them. You couldn't just go through them. They speak of the 23 women who are raped every 10 minutes in South Africa," she said.



Trixie is a dairy cow with a difference.

She's not dehorned. Her new-born calf will not be taken away from her. She will produce only half the volume of milk of intensively-farmed Jersey cows, but she will live three times longer.

She is prized by the *Camphill Farm Community* in Hermanus and enough people are prepared to pay slightly more for Trixie's milk to ensure that she and her 43 sisters at the farm continue to enjoy lives worth living.

In this article, Mada Morkel who, with her husband Will, runs the dairy at Camphill, tells us more...



Animal Voice: One of the tragedy's of modern, industrialised farming is the separation of cow and calf soon after birth so that we, as humans, can have all the milk. The mother's bellows tell it all! It is unbearable to hear her anguish. On top of this, the boy calves are discarded, and often land up in informal settlements where an estimated 70 % of them die of malnutrition.

Mada Morkel: All our calves, boy or girl, stay with their mothers. The calves grow up together and know each other so that when we do move them to their own pasture when they are three or four months old, we move them as a group and they settle down quickly. They live on pasture for about 18 months and then the bull calves are slaughtered for meat.

Animal Voice: What makes Camphill able to be so 'humane' in comparison to the norms of the industry?

Mada Morkel: We can't blame farmers for lack of compassion. We can blame the system. There are three main contributory factors:

- Farmers sell all their milk at a fixed price (irrespective of fluctuations in the price of feed) to the big buyers like Dairybelle, Clover or Parmalat.

- Price-wars between the supermarkets drive the price of milk down to a bare minimum.
- Consumers have a sense of entitlement to cheap-as-possible food.

The only way a farmer can survive under these circumstances, is to become as intensive and as big as possible so that the economies of scale kick in for him and in this process, cows become mere units of production.

Country-wide the number of dairy farms has dropped from 7000 ten years ago to 2000 today, but more milk is being produced. South African dairy farmers get the least amount of money for their milk worldwide while the South African consumer pays the most. Somewhere in between, something is horribly wrong. One of the ethical dairies that I am aware of, *Daily Dairy*, closed its doors last week.

We make no apologies for selling our milk at a higher price. We believe the cow must be whole, have access to diverse, nutritious pasture (in our case biodynamically managed), and the dairy product must be whole (not stripped of its lecithin content for example, as is the case with most supermarket milk).

Animal Voice: What do you mean when you say the cow must be whole?

Mada Morkel: We don't dehorn them. Dehorning is routine in the dairy industry. But horns are not like nails or hooves. Horns are full of nerve endings and are linked somehow to the cow's personality. Dehorn a cow and you subdue her personality.

Moreover, calves that have stayed with their mothers are emotionally stronger and more 'whole'.

There's a hardiness and resilience that comes from being nurtured properly. The cows who were born on this farm are so obviously healthier in every way than the cows that we have brought into the farm, and they produce better.

We do not breed for milk production only but for a balanced cow in all aspects.

Animal Voice: What is the purpose of feeding grains to cows when grass is their natural food?

Mada Morkel: Grain is imported to feed to the cows on the big farms because grain adds energy and increases milk production. But, as you say, cows' are ruminants and are designed to eat grass (fibre).

The grains reduce the rumen pH and as a result destroy the natural rumen microbial fauna which is replaced by E.coli which is more acid resistant. This in turn creates toxic manure that needs to be processed before it can be disposed of. Manure from grass is safe for composting. The cows in concentration camp dairies receive a high protein diet and need the energy of grains to process this protein. The result of this high protein diet is that the cows' skeletal structure and hooves are weaker than normal.

Add to this the extra weight of a bigger udder and life on a concrete floor, and you end up with a lame cow. That is why the average lifetime of a dairy cow in South Africa is 2½ lactations. We achieve up to 8 lactations.

Animal Voice: We are aware that grain-fed cows develop acidosis in the rumen. In the USA, bicarbonate of soda is actually added to the feed to counter acidosis. Do you know if bicarbonate of soda is added to the feed here in South Africa?

Mada Morkel: To counter the acidosis in the rumen farmers in South Africa

add buffers to the diet of their cows, mostly bicarbonate of soda.

Animal Voice: So, if we want cows to have lives worth living, who do we turn to, if Camphill is not close by?

Mada Morkel: At the end of the day, it is all about a sea change in the consumer mindset – from a supermarket-generated mentality that food must be as cheap as possible, to being prepared to buy a better life for the cows. And on top of this, local businesses and consumers need to support local farmers who are farming ethically.

- Around 600 000 dairy cows in South Africa produce around 3 billion litres of milk annually.
- Around 200 000 boy calves are born into the SA dairy industry annually but are considered as disposable because they will never produce milk and are too slimly built for the beef industry. Sold for next to nothing in impoverished settlements, an estimated 70% will die from dehydration and lack of nutrition.
- Dairy products from *Camphill* are available from local shops in Hermanus, the *Ethical Co-op* (www.ethical.co.za) and the *Stellenbosch Green Road Market* (021 881 3867).

..... Humane Education is now part of the National Schools Curriculum

Proudly Humane and Loving it!



At their end of year assembly for 2013, the learners at Forest Heights Primary School paid tribute to all the animals confined in impossible spaces - living their lives in misery and torment - by singing 'Free' by the *Lighthouse Family*...

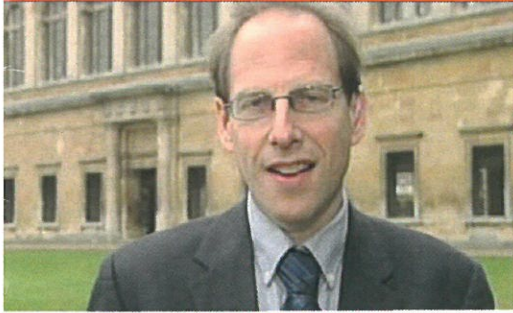
Click here to hear them: <http://www.animal-voice.org/> and go to the video clip "Humane Education Teacher's Guide"

*I wish I knew how it would feel to be free
I wish I could break all the chains holding me
I wish I could say all the things that I should say,
Say 'em loud, say 'em clear, for the whole wide world to hear.*

*I wish I could be like a bird in the sky
How sweet it would be if I found I could fly
Well I 'd soar to the sun and look down at the sea
And I'd sing 'cos I know how it feels to be free.*

(See more on back page)

Why are people cruel?

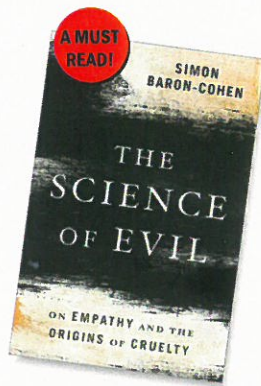


Multi-award winning Cambridge psychologist, **Professor Simon Baron-Cohen** suggests that Empathy - or rather, lack of Empathy - is at the root of all evil. And 'yes', he told *Animal Voice* this month, ***the way we treat animals "is clearly related to the topic of human empathy."***

In his book *The Science of Evil*, **Professor Baron-Cohen** says: "Empathy is the most valuable social resource in our world and the erosion of empathy is a critical global issue of our time."

"There is growing evidence for the argument that instead of using the term 'evil', we should talk about reduced (or even absent) empathy."

"The critical role of empathy in our society has been overlooked." Yet, he adds, "empathy is related to the health of our communities, be they small (like families) or big (like nations)... Without empathy we risk the breakdown of relationships, become capable of hurting others, and cause conflict. With empathy, we have a resource to resolve conflict, increase community cohesion, and dissolve another person's pain. The whole issue of how we

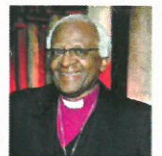


treat animals (either in farming or in other ways) is clearly related to the topic of human empathy and "these issues need high-profile public debate."

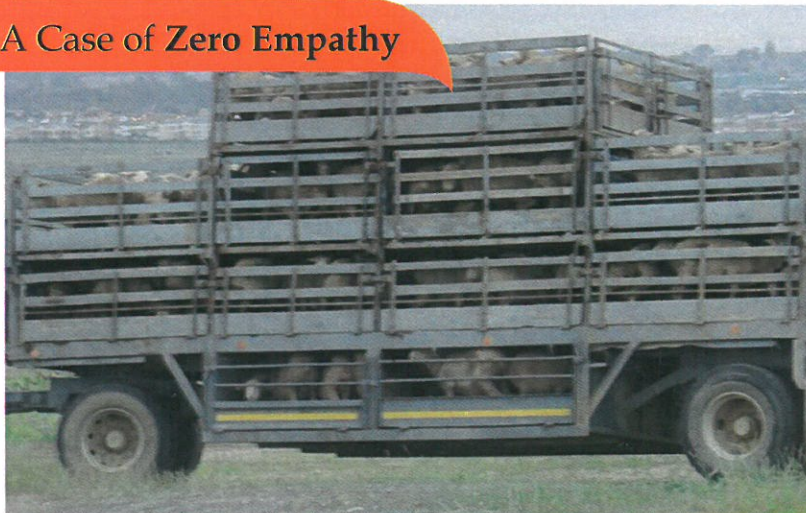
Professor Baron-Cohen suggests that the debate could start by "substituting the concept of 'evil', with the term 'empathy erosion', a condition that arises when we objectify others. This has the effect of 'devaluing them'. "When empathy is dimmed, it causes us to think only of our own interests. When we are solely in the 'I' mode, our empathy is switched off."



Professor Baron-Cohen suggests that *Nelson Mandela* and *FW de Klerk* showed the world the value of empathy and that *Archbishop Desmond Tutu* is a candidate for someone with super-empathy.



A Case of Zero Empathy



An *Animal Voice* reader sent this photo, in October 2013, and said:

"A disturbing sight greeted my dogs and me earlier this morning when we went walking... a truck-load of crammed-in, sheep, parked on an open field near where I live. The truck must have stopped there overnight, leaving the poor sheep standing as they are – out in the open without food and water. Some of them could barely stand but being crammed next to one another they had no choice but to stand! It was terribly cold and windy last night, so shame on the person or people who left them there!"

Animal Voice tried to track the truck registration number but with no success.

The German federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia has announced a ban on the killing of new-born boy chicks with hatcheries being given just a year in which to comply.

“The killing is too cruel,” said the local minister of Agricultural and Environmental Affairs, Johannes Remmel. “These are living creatures that have become the waste-products of agriculture. They are victims of an over-heated and industrialised system.”

— Information courtesy *Poultry Bulletin*, November 2013, official mouthpiece of the SA Poultry Industry.

“I remain convinced that intensive farming of animals is basically illegal... Surely the time is long overdue for potentially effective laws to be made full use of!

It's now vital that all factory farming is proved to be cruel, and therefore illegal. I've written my book in the hope that it might bring justice for billions of exploited animals a little closer.”

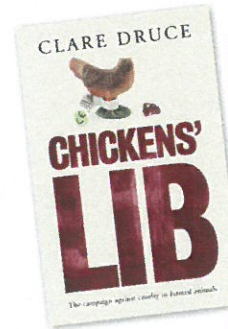
- **Clare Druce**, author of *Chickens' Lib* -

a campaign against cruelty to farmed animals, published by *Bluemoose Books* and available from Amazon.

What a Waste!



He will experience a couple of hours of consciousness before he is suffocated, drowned or, at best, liquidized.



Please click here for for Michael Stewart's mind-expanding interview with Clare
<http://michaelstewartxxx.wordpress.com/2013/11/20/chickens-lib-its-not-just-about-chickens/>



“There is a fundamental misalignment between the way we would choose to treat animals versus how we allow them to be treated on our behalf.”
 - **Andrew Canter**,
 Chief Investment Officer of
Futuregrowth Asset Management.
www.ethicsxchange.co.za/gallery/videos-talks-at-the-event

If you can't view page, press Cntr F5 to refresh the page.

“Recognition of the value of animals and their entitlement to respect and decent treatment needs to be instantiated in law and statutory reform may be the best way to achieve lasting change for them... Statutory reform must enshrine and reflect our revised understanding of the sentience of animals.”



- **Professor David Bilchitz**, Professor of Law at University of Johannesburg, Director of the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law and Secretary General of the International Association of Constitutional Law.



- **Revd Professor Andrew Linzey**, Director of the *Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics* www.oxfordanimaethics.com

“During the past thirty years, there has been a paradigm shift in ethical thinking about our treatment of animals. From being regarded as things, tools, machines or resources for us – animals are increasingly regarded as sentient beings with their own inherent value, dignity and rights.”

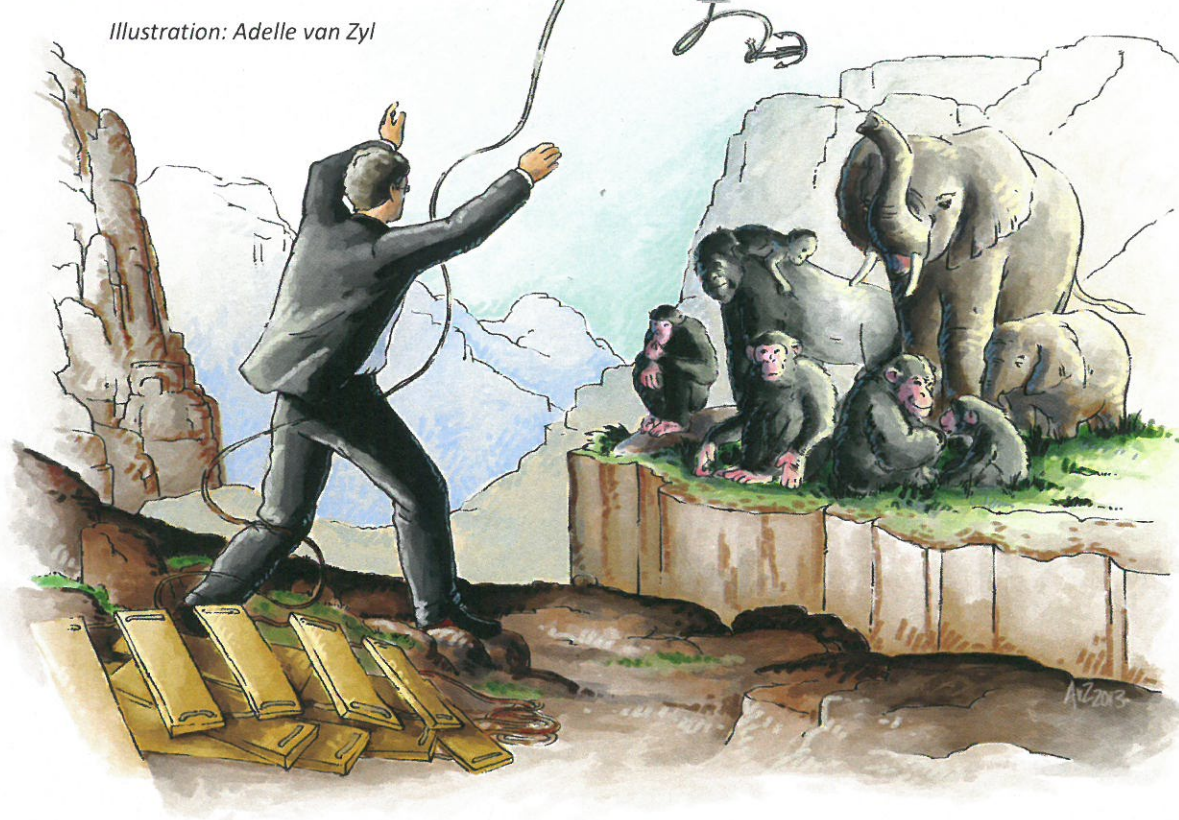
“...Animal welfare is not just about animals being free from 'unnecessary' pain and suffering, whatever 'unnecessary' means; it is also about a positive state of well-being... the sense that it's good to be alive.”



- **Philip Lymbery**, CEO: *Compassion in World Farming*

Bridging the Great Species Divide

Illustration: Adelle van Zyl



A landmark lawsuit brought before a New York Supreme Court on 2 December 2013 by the **Nonhuman Rights Project** to gain legal recognition of basic rights for animals, was dismissed within a week. However the **Nonhuman Rights Project** will appeal and has stated it is under no illusion regarding the enormity of the legal challenge ahead of them.

The information below is courtesy of *The New York Times*.

As founder and leader of the **Nonhuman Rights Project**, Lawyer **Steven Wise** filed a writ of *habeas corpus* claiming that a chimpanzee called Tommy was entitled to his liberty. The writ asked for acknowledgement of Tommy's right to be liberated from a cage in a shed in a used-trailer lot and transferred to a chimp sanctuary. If ultimately successful, Wise will be paving the way, not only for chimps, but for all caged animals.

Wise argues that being human is not a pre-requisite to have basic rights and that the same principles that applied to humans who were enslaved, should apply to Tommy and others like him. He asked the court for a writ recognizing that Tommy is not a legal thing* to be possessed, but rather a "cognitively complex autonomous legal person with the fundamental legal right not be imprisoned."

A teacher of animal rights law at Harvard Law School, Wise has authored numerous books which examine the link between human slavery and animal incarceration in the world today. In his book 'An American Trilogy' (2009), he tells the story of how land in North Carolina, was first the home of Native Americans until they were driven into near extinction, then a slave plantation, and finally the site of a factory pig farm and the world's largest slaughterhouse. His book 'Rattling the Cage' (2000) argues for basic legal rights to be extended to chimps and bonobos, as *persons* in terms of the law.

"Without personhood in law," he says, one is "invisible to

civil law" and "might as well be dead." He adds: "For four thousand years. A thick and impenetrable legal wall has separated all human from nonhuman animals. On one side, even the most trivial interests of a single species – ours – are jealously guarded. We have assigned ourselves, alone among the million animal species, the status of 'legal persons'.

On the other side of that wall lies the legal refuse of an entire kingdom, not just chimpanzees and bonobos but also gorillas, orangutans, and monkeys, dogs, elephants, and dolphins. They are legal "things". Their most basic and fundamental interests – their pains, their lives, their freedoms – are intentionally ignored, often maliciously trampled, and routinely abused."

Read more here: <http://tinyurl.com/k5eoo6n>
http://www.nytimes.com/2013/12/10/science/considering-the-humanity-of-nonhumans.html?_r=0

Philosopher Immanuel Kant believed 'personhood' included all beings who recognised themselves as 'I's'.

Download Adelle van Zyl's artwork for your screensaver! Click here: www.animal-voice.org/index.php/our-news/95-download-our-fabulous-illustrated-screensaver

Note from Ed: *Animals in South African law are also denoted as 'things'.

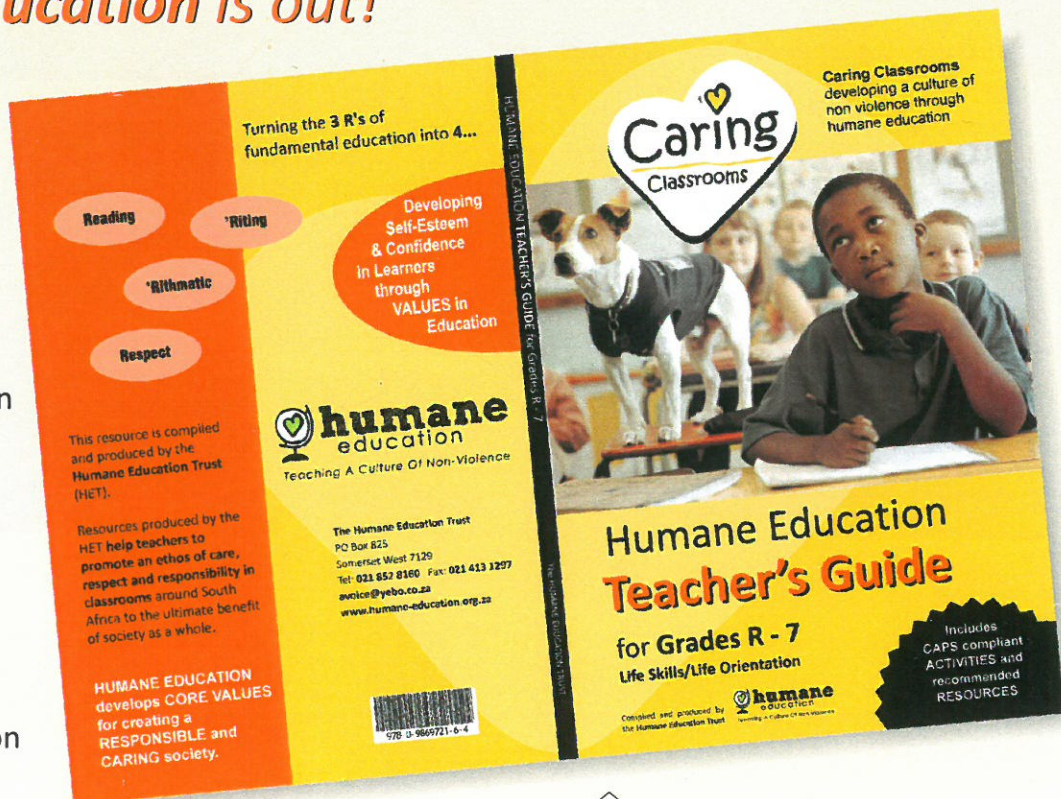
Caring Classrooms

Rekindling the Spirit of Care and Respect for Life

The first-ever, curriculum-compliant Teacher's Guide in Humane Education is out!

This 143-page guide is curriculum compliant and includes activities and lesson plans that can be used by Life Skills and Life Orientation teachers in Grades R – 7 to fulfil specific topics as set out in the curriculum.

Although additional resources can always be ordered from Humane Education, the **Teacher's Guide** is sufficiently comprehensive to stand on its own.



Order Now!

Price: R850.00 including VAT and postage.

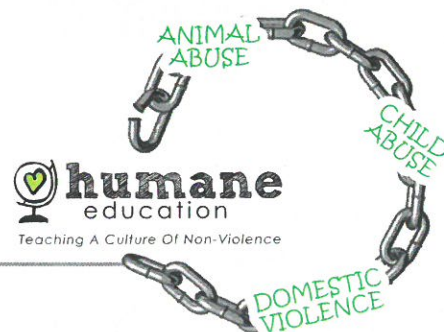
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Bank: **Absa**, Somerset West
Branch Code: **632005**
Account Number: **9094070046**

To order your copy, please send proof of payment to Louise at avoice@yebo.co.za and give your name and postal address.

Additionally, please click here: <http://www.animal-voice.org/> and go to the video clip "**Humane Education Teacher's Guide**"... to see learners at **Forest Heights Primary School** singing a tribute to animals in factory farms, and to see what **Mr Joey Sitzler**, *DCES Life Skills and Life Orientation*, Western Cape Education Department, says about humane education.

THE HUMANE EDUCATION TRUST (incorporates CIWF SA and Animal Voice)
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Tel: **021 852 8160** Fax: 021 413 1297 E-mail: avoice@yebo.co.za
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Building empathy to break the cycle of violence