

A nation of animal lovers? / Friends of Animals Under Abuse.

Contributors

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**A NATION OF
ANIMAL LOVERS?**

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PET TRADE

There are nearly eight million dogs, a further seven million cats and millions more smaller animals including birds, fish, hamsters, mice, rats and rabbits kept as pets in the UK. Most of us at some time have enjoyed the warmth, loyalty and devotion of a companion animal, however, for some people this is not enough, and they repay this innocence with cruelty, violence and neglect.

A million dogs and two million cats become strays every year, abandoned to face an uncertain future. The lucky ones are taken to sanctuaries, the others are at the mercy of pet thieves who make a sordid living through the sale of animals for fur or experimentation. Hungry exhausted and afraid many just give up and end their lives as they have lived them, lonely and unwanted. Two thousand dogs and cats are destroyed every day.

Animal sanctuaries and dogs homes are overwhelmed by the problem, there are simply not enough good homes available.

The reasons for this are obvious; the pet trade encourages people to think of animals as a commodity that can be bought or sold, unscrupulous breeders are only interested in profit, while children are encouraged to look upon animals as mere playthings.

If this kind of cruelty appals you, then why not consider whether you could offer a home to one of the abandoned animals waiting to be cared for. Could you restore their faith in humanity and repay the debt we owe them? If you can, then contact us for details of your nearest sanctuary.

THE FACTS

- Pet shops and breeders thrive on 'sympathy buyers', people who buy animals out of pity for the individual, ignorant of the fact that this merely encourages more breeding.
- Stray dogs and cats are stolen from the streets for experimentation, dog fighting and the fur trade.
- Many animals are brutally treated, drowned, kicked, starved or abandoned.
- The skins of destroyed animals are used for the fur trade, their bodies are routinely rendered into fat.
- 'Pet' animals endure insufferable boredom and psychological deprivation through human ignorance. They are denied the companionship of their own species and access to their natural environment.
- Animals are completely dependent on us - we can never fulfil all their needs however well intentioned.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Never buy animals from pet shops or breeders.

If you can give a home to an animal, adopt from a local shelter. Animal sanctuaries are always desperate for good homes.

It is strongly advised that all animals are spayed or neutered.

Never let your dog roam the streets.

Clear identification can save an animals life. Lost animals depend on a tag bearing your name address and telephone number. Make sure the collar isn't too tight and the identity disc is always secure.

I would like to join FAUNA and enclose a cheque/po for £5 (£3 unwaged), made payable to FAUNA.

I enclose a donation of £ _____ to help stop animal suffering.

Name _____ age _____ (if under 18)

Address _____

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