

THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS - THEY'RE NOT HUMANS...

...But along with rats, mice, rabbits, guinea-pigs and many other species of animals, cats and dogs are routinely used in experiments to try and find cures for human diseases (even if they don't suffer from the same ailments that humans do).

What's the result?

Human tragedy. Thalidomide (caused hideous birth defects), DES (still-births, infertilities, reproductive cancers), Fenoterol asthma inhalers (deaths), Clioquinol (blindness, paralysis, deaths), DDT and 2,4,5-T (both harmful environmental pollutants) are just some of the many toxins that were promoted and marketed as safe for humans after animal testing.

Why don't animal experiments work?

Because animals react differently from humans. Take the case of oral contraceptives that are now known to increase the risk of blood clots, leading to heart attacks, lung disorders and strokes:

"Not only had the animal tests failed to identify the hazard, but in rats and dogs oral contraceptives produced entirely the opposite effect, making it more difficult for the blood to clot."

(Z. Bankowski and N. Howard-Jones, Biomedical Research Involving Animals.)

Most pharmaceutical drugs, chemicals, pesticides, toiletries, food additives etc are tested on animals before they reach you – the consumer.

If they don't work – why do them?

Animal tests provide a legal alibi for the drug and chemical companies enabling them to sell their unsafe products.

"Animal studies are done for legal reasons and not for scientific reasons. The predictive value of such studies for man is meaningless – which means our research may be meaningless.."

(Dr James Gallagher, Journal of the American Medical Association, 14 March 1964.)

Free information on how animal research directly affects your health, including chapters on cancer, AIDS, antibiotics, surgery, and vaccines (essential reading for anyone who has children) is available in the on-line version of Bette Overell's book

ANIMAL RESEARCH TAKES LIVES – Humans and Animals BOTH Suffer.

<http://www.health.org.nz>

The media portrays vivisection as an animal rights issue despite the fact that international organisations such as **Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine** (USA) **SUPRESS** (USA), **CIVIS** (Switzerland), **Doctors and Lawyers for Responsible Medicine** (UK) and are actively campaigning for the abolition of vivisection on scientific grounds. These organisations include doctors and scientists, and even former vivisectioners, who acknowledge the damage to human health that has occurred as a direct result of animal experiments.

“Like every member of my profession, I was brought up in the belief that almost every important fact in physiology had been obtained by vivisection, and that many of our most valued means of saving lives and diminishing suffering had resulted from experiments on animals. I now know that nothing of the sort is true concerning the art of surgery; and not only do I not believe that vivisection has helped the surgeon one bit, but I know that it has often led him astray.”

(Robert Lawson Tait, who originated many of surgery's modern techniques, including appendectomy.)

What should we use instead of animals?

The focus of medicine must be on prevention and clinical observation. True scientific methods of research have been under-utilised due to a pre-occupation with animal experiments. These methods include human cell and tissue culture tests, computer simulations and epidemiological studies.

Professor Pietro Croce, MD, medical luminary, and former vivisector turned scientific anti-vivisectionist explains how the importance of conducting epidemiological studies is often ignored by the establishment because it “does not lend itself to the production of piles of ‘scientific’ publications upon which researchers build their careers and fortunes.”

(Prof. Croce, *Vivisection or Science? an investigation into testing drugs and safeguarding health*, Zed Books, 1999.)

Recommended reading:

Lethal Laws – animal testing, human health and environmental policy by **Alix Fano**
Naked Empress, and 1000 Doctors (and many more) Against Vivisection by **Hans Ruesch**
ANIMAL RESEARCH TAKES LIVES – Humans and Animals BOTH Suffer by **Bette Overell**

These books are available from the New Zealand Anti-Vivisection Society, PO Box 9387, Christchurch, New Zealand. (<http://nzavs.org.nz>). Check your local library.

ANTI-VIVISECTION

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