

20th November 2003

Dear Sir/Madam,

We, the Hong Kong No Kill City Forum, request to have a meeting with you to show our No Kill Presentation. "No Kill" is a shorthand for a proactive approach to dealing with surplus animal populations. The traditional method of rounding up and killing strays does not work as the animals multiply to refill the ecological niches and animals remain at large causing innumerable public health and other problems. We wish to explain how there is a better policy that can be adopted by Hong Kong.

Yours faithfully,
John Wedderburn (Dr)
Chair, HKNKCF.

敬啓者

Hong Kong No Kill City Forum 希望能透過會面介紹一輯有關 "No Kill" 的資料。
"No Kill" 其實代表以進取積極的態度去處理社區多餘的動物數目。傳統方法將流浪貓狗趕到一起而殺掉的並不有效，因為動物會不斷繁殖而再次充斥生態環境，大量動物會造成無數的社會健康問題以及其他難以處理的問題。我們希望透過會面解釋我們所建議比較有效而適合香港所採用的政策。

此致

韋禮彬醫生
Hong Kong No Kill City Forum 主席
二零零三年十一月廿日



"Dr John Wedderburn"
<john@aapn.org>

2003/11/20 11:51 AM

To: <awong@legco.gov.hk>
cc: "Roger Medcalf"

Subject: Re: No kill presentation

Dear Ms Wong,

As per your request, here is our formal letter in English and, below that, is a longer explanation. A Chinese version will follow later.

I have not finalised our delegate list but it will consist of at least some of the following: myself, Dr Pauline Taylor, Ms Lisa Tsui, Ms Nikki Green, Ms El Chan, Ms Noel Fan, Roger Medcalf, Ms Margaret Ho and Ms Flora Ho. I shall try to finalise it by tomorrow.

Thank you.

John.

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public health and other problems. We wish to explain how there is a better policy that can be adopted by Hong Kong.

Your faithfully,

John Wedderburn (Dr)
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This is part of an article that I wrote for the South China Morning Post in January 2002:

"Pet" overpopulation is a tragic problem which leads to the destruction of many thousands of innocent cats and dogs each year. Between one and two thousand dogs are destroyed in Hong Kong each month by the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) and the Agriculture and Fisheries Department (AFCD). Although the methods of euthanasia used in Hong Kong are better than in some countries, the whole process is barbaric besides being ineffective. Despite the continual killing, the streets and parks of Hong Kong still have strays who pose major hazards to themselves and the public from bitings, diseases and collisions with vehicles. The animals themselves endure miserable lives of hunger, disease and suffering. This situation is not acceptable either to animal lovers or animal haters. The only people who are content with the current situation are those who are making money from importing, breeding and selling the excessive numbers of animals. Hong Kong's current method of dog and cat population control is simply to kill the surplus. This cruel and inhumane policy has been used for decades and is plainly ineffective. If the present policy worked there would be no surplus and therefore no problem. An animal control policy that does work but has not yet been tried in Hong Kong is the control of the supply by restricting importing, breeding and selling; introducing differential licence fees with cheaper licences for neutered animals; and undertaking desexing campaigns both for owned animals and strays.

The short name that is used for this new concept is "No Kill". The term "No

Kill" is in some ways misleading - euthanasia will still be provided for animals for whom there is no other solution to their distress. "No Kill" in this context simply means using preventive methods to stop the surplus from occurring, instead of waiting for the surplus to be produced and then killing it. The work on this was pioneered in San Francisco twenty years ago and the policy of controlling the birth of unwanted animals rather than

simply continuing to kill those that have already been born, has now been successfully introduced into many other cities both in the United States and in other countries around the world. It will be particularly exciting to demonstrate that this humane concept is effective in Hong Kong because other

Asian cities can then be inspired to follow Hong Kong's lead.

The advantages of a "no kill" policy are clear: the endless round of killings will be stopped; tax payers' money will not be spent on rounding

up and killing thousands of animals every month; there will be no homeless suffering animals in the streets causing annoyance to humans.

[snip]

The AFCD must reduce the importing, breeding and selling of dogs and cats; change the licence fee structure; and back a massive Responsible Pet Ownership (RPO) campaign which includes large-scale low cost desexing (Spay and Neuter). ["Spay" is the term for desexing a female animal; "neuter" is the term for desexing a male animal].

香港—動感之都？

我們的宗旨：

“宣揚仁慈、仁愛、保障動物福利及健康。
防止虐畜個案增長，推廣動物教育信息，
令到社會深深體會尊重生命、愛護動物
的重要性，從而達到人與動物和諧相
處。”

香港是否一個動感之都？

問題所在

- ✧ 每年有四萬多頭動物被遺棄
- ✧ 其中只有不足一成（7.5%）被收養
- ✧ 其餘一概被人道毀滅

爲何香港會有大量動物被殺？

1. 供過於求

- 現本法例有所不足
- 現本法例監管不力
 - 寵物店
 - 動物入口管制
- 太多新生動物被遺棄

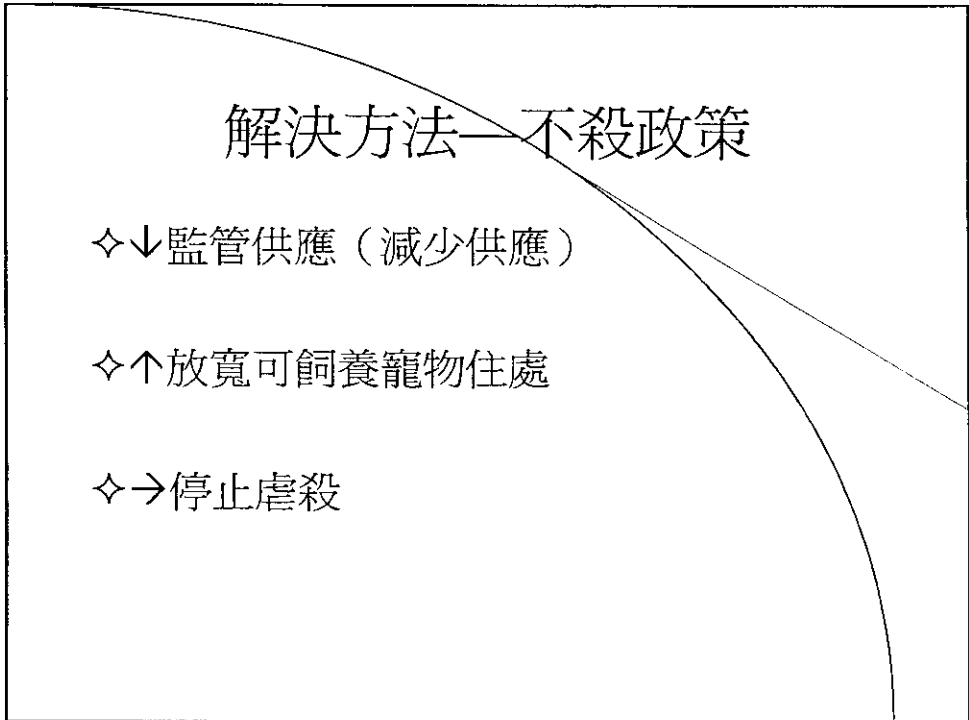
爲何香港會有大量動物被殺？

2. 缺乏收養家庭

- 公屋不能飼養寵物
- 超過五成人居住政府和私人屋苑不能飼養寵物



遺棄後果



解決方法—不殺政策

✧↓監管供應（減少供應）

✧↑放寬可飼養寵物住處

✧→停止虐殺

減少上述問題

減少供應

- 入口管制
- 監管寵物店銷售
- 控制寵物繁殖者

增加需求

- 全面放寬政府公屋及私人屋苑飼養寵物

香港居民絕對支持負責任的寵物主人

公屋住戶問卷調查

- 68% 同意公屋可飼養寵物
- 28% 公屋居民想飼養寵物

問題：香港應否厲監管動物自由買賣

答案：八成人同意

共同合作是絕對重要

將香港成爲“不殺城市”需要以下相關部門、團體合作

- 漁護處
- 合法註冊獸醫
- 動物權益團體及機構
- 公眾市民
- 立法會議員

我們需要成立新法例及條約

- 要遵守所定下之法例及條約
 - ✓ 加強管制定下之法例及條約
 - ✓ 定時更新，與時並進

香港—動感之都

1. 牌照

- ✧ 所有動物在收養或買之前要植入晶片
- ✧ 已絕育之動物會減少收牌費

香港—動感之都

2. 入口

- ◇所有入口貓隻及犬隻需要
 - 已持有效預防疫苗
 - 要有12星期成長
 - 需要植入晶片

香港—動感之都

3. 繁殖

- ◇繁殖者要有合法牌照
- ◇檢控非法無牌繁殖者
- ◇充公或取締非法販賣貓隻及狗隻

香港—動感之都

4. 寵物店

✧ 加強監管條例

✧ 動罰買賣非法入口動物

香港—動感之都

5. 寵物主人

✧ 介紹寵物守則給寵物主人遵守

Hong Kong - City of Life?

Our Mission:

“To promote kindness to animals, to protect their health and welfare, to prevent cruelty and, through education, to inspire in the community a deep respect for life so that all living creatures may live together in harmony”

Is Hong Kong a City of Life?

THE PROBLEM

- 40,000 animals are abandoned in Hong Kong each year
- Only 7.5% find new homes
- The rest are killed



Why are so many animals killed in Hong Kong?

1. OVERSUPPLY

- Current legislation inadequate
- Current legislation under policed
 - Pet Shops
 - Import controls
- Too many unwanted pups born

2. LACK OF HOMES

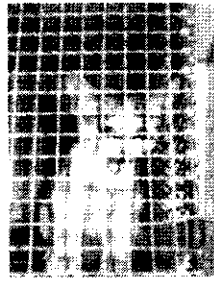
- Housing estates restrictions
- More than 50% of HK residents live in housing estates

Abandoned





The Solution – A “No Kill” Policy



- ◆ ↓ Decrease Supply
- ◆ ↑ Increase Homes
- ◆ Stop the Killing

Solving The Problem

Decrease Supply

- Importation
- Pet Shops
- Breeders

Increase Demand

- Allow all types of dogs in Housing Estates provided they are cared for responsibly

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

Mahatma Gandhi (1869 – 1948)

Hong Kong Residents Support Responsible Pet Ownership

Source: SPCA Survey 2002

Public Housing Residents Survey

- 68% agree to pet keeping in Public Housing
- 28% want to keep a pet



Hong Kong Residents Support Responsible Pet Ownership

Source: SPCA Survey 2003

In the USA and Europe

- 99% of households with children keep a pet

Sadly in Hong Kong

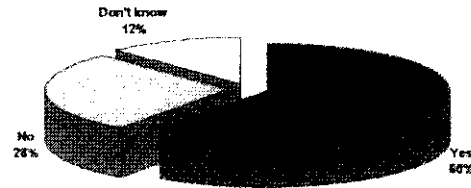
- Only 25% of all households keep a pet

Pets Help Families & Individuals

- Combat loneliness
- School children
 - study better
 - have fewer sick days
 - stronger immune systems
- Young adults - "de-stress" after work
- Mature adults and the elderly have a companion to care for and share their lives

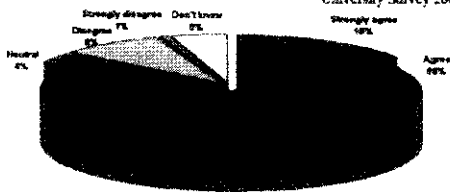
Positive Impact on Family

Source: HK Polytechnic University Survey 2003



More Education to Promote Responsible Pet Ownership

Source: HK Polytechnic University Survey 2003

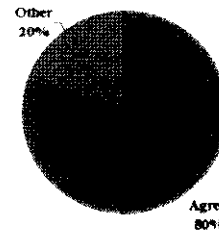


82% agree that more education is necessary to promote responsible pet ownership.

Q. Does HK need stricter controls on retail sales and availability of pets?

20% Strongly Agree, 80% Agree

Source: SPCA Survey 2002



Team Work Is Important

Transforming Hong Kong into a No-Kill City requires co-operation

- AFCD
- Private Vets
- Animal Shelters
- The Public
- Legislature

We must have New Laws and Regulations

Current laws and regulations are:

- Under-enforced
- In need of review

Hong Kong – City Of Life

PROPOSALS FOR PREVENTING THE KILLINGS

1. Licensing

- All animals to be registered and microchipped before first sale/adoption
- Registration fees to be free for deceased animals but retained for intact animals (ie all dogs, cats, rabbits and chinchillas) - regardless of sex

2. Importation

- Raise importation fees

3. Breeding

- Breeding regulations to be improved and effectively enforced

4. Pet Shops

- Regulations to be improved and effectively enforced for animal traders, animal businesses and animal keepers

Hong Kong – City Of Life

PROPOSALS FOR PREVENTING THE KILLINGS

5. Housing

- Sensible flexible regulations to be introduced for keeping companion animals in public and private housing estates

6. Cruelty

- Anti-cruelty laws to be improved and effectively enforced with significantly increased penalties
- Animal Warden system to be set up (either Government or NGO)

