



2006/08/18 AM 10:51

To nsyeung@legco.gov.hk

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Subject Opinion on the 2006 Amendment on Anti Animal Cruelty Bill

Dear Sir/Madam,

Mahatma Ghandi once said : "The greatness of a nation & its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated," According to this saying, Hong Kong is not so great and its standard of morality is low, because animal abuse cases keep happening and yet both our legislation & law enforcement units have not been keen on protecting animals.

A lot of people may feel that since the Anti Animal Abuse Protest in Jan 2006, the "crazy" animal lovers have been making such a fuss. "Those are only animals!" They might have said. However, as an animal lover myself, I'm sure that I haven't lost my sanity. Those are NOT ONLY animals, those are LIVES. They can feel pain, they feel hot or cold, they can think, they can feel betrayed, and they know fear. A voice to speak for themselves is what they don't have.

Animal abuse is not just a disaster for the animals being tortured or killed. It is a serious threat to the whole society. Most animals that are targeted for such torment are those that are totally harmless, helpless, and even adorable, like little kittens or puppies. These animals have done nothing against the abuser, and yet the abuser chose to purposely induce immense, unbearable pain to these helpless creatures. For pleasure? Fun? Or excitement? It is very possible that in future, these individuals may chose to escalate their "venture" into abusing defenseless humans (e.g. children, women, or elderly) if they were not stopped. People who abuse animals are lurking threats to the society. They either have a perverted character or they are mentally sick. Either case, they need to be punished harshly and evaluated by psychiatrist.

The 2006 Amendment on the Anti Animal Cruelty Bill is much needed as the current penalties are definitely inadequate to stop animal abuse from happening. Current legislation have little effect in deterring animal abusers from taking actions since the penalties are so light and they are not likely to get caught.

As the first step to show you care, to make Hong Kong a more civilized, more humane society, please pass the 2006 Anti Animal Cruelty Bill. Harsher legislation will be the first step, followed by cooperation from the Law Enforcement units and public education.

Thank you for your attention!

Your Concerned Citizen,
Mindy So Ching Ching.

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