

## Global View - Animal Rights (C0146)

A: You should have seen the T.V. show that was on last night, the topic it covered was really interesting; animal rights.

B: Do you really believe in that? If they are going to focus on something, they should do it on civil rights.

A: Yes, but we can't deny that animals are vulnerable, defenseless, and are completely at the mercy of human beings.

B: I understand your point, but we continue to have transgressions against human rights. If so much attention weren't devoted to the topic of animals, we would then concentrate more on saving a human being instead of protecting a koala.

A: You can't compare apples and oranges; I believe that both topics are important and that we can't ignore them, the mistreatment of animals can cause a great environmental imbalance. I believe that governments should prohibit activities like poaching.

B: Well, you are right on that point. This is the reason that I don't buy leather and I try to buy synthetic products.

B: At least you're doing your part. My contribution is to have a pet in the house that I treat like a member of the family.

A: As long as you don't treat it better than your wife, it's fine.

### Key Vocabulary

civil rights	<i>phrase</i>	the rights people have
vulnerable	<i>Adjective</i>	easily hurt or harmed
defenseless	<i>Adjective</i>	defenseless

at the mercy of	<i>phrase</i>	in a position where you can be harmed
transgression	<i>common noun, plural</i>	something that is not allowed
apples and oranges	<i>phrase</i>	an unfair comparison of two different things
poach	<i>principle verb, present progressive</i>	to illegally hunt protected animals
synthetic	<i>Adjective</i>	not natural
do your part	<i>phrase</i>	to help accomplish a goal

### Supplementary Vocabulary

biodegradable	<i>Adjective</i>	capable of being decomposed by natural means
drought	<i>common noun, singular</i>	a prolonged period of time during which no rain falls

famine	<i>common noun, sin- gular</i>	a severe shortage of food
biosphere	<i>common noun, sin- gular</i>	the part of the earth's surface and atmosphere inhabited by living things
cloning	<i>common noun, sin- gular</i>	a general term for the research activity that creates a copy of some biological entity