



National University of Singapore

LSM1303 Animal Behaviour

Lecture 12: An introduction to animal welfare issues in Singapore

*Roxie, the
Singapore Special
from Sembawang
Shipyard adopted
by Dr Joelle Lai
(CAPT/LKCNHM)*

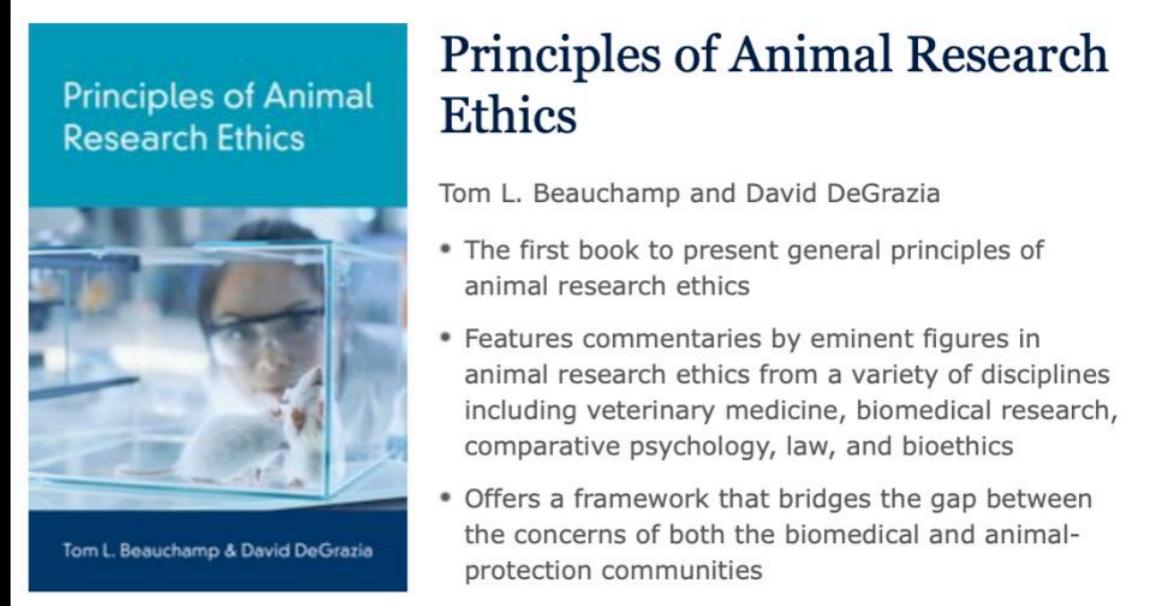
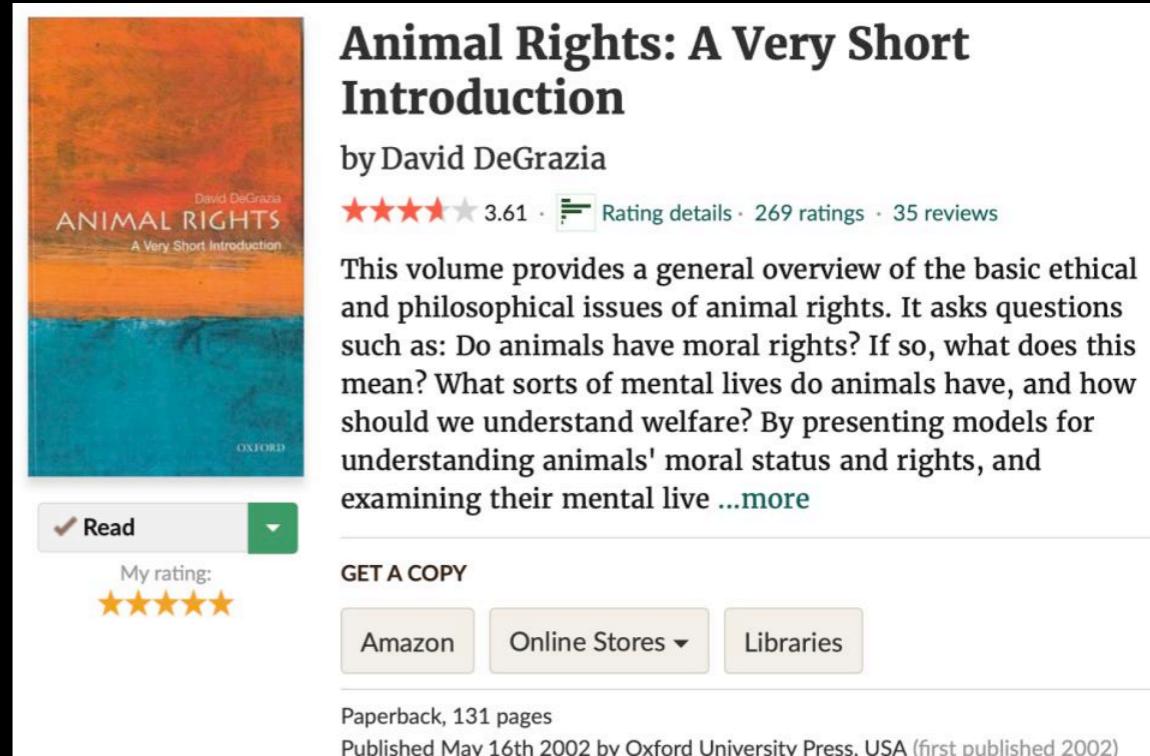


N. Sivasothi aka Otterman



Main ideas are summarised by Degrazia (2002)

- David DeGrazia
- Elton Professor of Philosophy,
George Washington University
& Senior Research Fellow,
Department of Bioethics,
National Institutes of Health, USA



Duality in perspectives

- “Western modern philosophy largely upheld the view of human supremacy”
- Non-western traditions:
 - *Ahimsa* (South Asian religions) advocates reverence for all life
 - Confucianism oneness with all life and sympathy for all who suffer
 - Native American spiritual view of animal life.

DeGrazia, D. (2002). Animal rights: a very short introduction. Oxford University Press, Oxford. 131p.

Duality in perspectives

- Yet abject suffering is inflicted on animals in Asia
- Linked to economic conditions, commerce
- Laws governing animal care and use in research and farming, for example, have originated in Europe

DeGrazia, D. (2002). Animal rights: a very short introduction. Oxford University Press, Oxford. 131p.

The modern humane movement

- West, 1960s/1970s
 - Civil right's movement challenge discrimination,
 - Environmental concerns about pollution of the planet [Rachel Carson's, "Silent Spring" (1962); Earth Day, 1970]
 - Philosopher Peter Singer's "Animal Liberation" (1975) –
[animals rights should be based on their capacity to feel pain more than on their intelligence]
 - This triggered an explosion of philosophical literature on the moral status of animals in the west

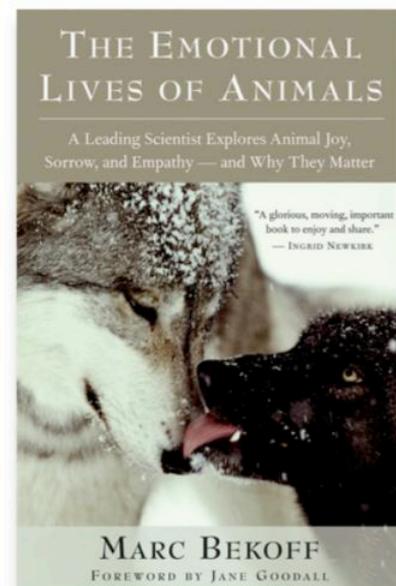
DeGrazia, D. (2002). Animal rights: a very short introduction. Oxford University Press, Oxford. 131p.

What is moral status?

- Moral importance in its own right, and not just in relation to humans
 - I.e. an animal's welfare is independent of human interest

DeGrazia, D. (2002). *Animal rights: a very short introduction*. Oxford University Press, Oxford. 131p.

Animals are like us: popular books which explored this theme



2007

The Emotional Lives of Animals: A Leading Scientist Explores Animal Joy, Sorrow, and Empathy - and Why They Matter

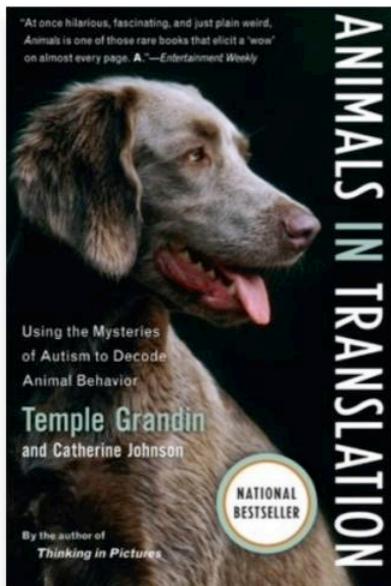
by Marc Bekoff (Goodreads Author),
Jane Goodall (Goodreads Author)

★★★★★ 4.04 · Rating details · 1,595 ratings · 107 reviews

Based on award-winning scientist Marc Bekoff's years studying social communication in a wide range of species, this important book shows that animals have rich emotional lives. Bekoff skillfully blends extraordinary stories of animal joy, empathy, grief, embarrassment, anger, and love with the latest scientific research confirming the existence of emotions that common sense and experience have long implied. Filled with Bekoff's light humor and touching stories, *The Emotional Lives of Animals* is a clarion call for reassessing both how we view animals and how we treat them.

Animals experience wide range of emotions; if you could not guess, here's the research!

Animals are like us: popular books which explored this theme



2004

Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior

by Temple Grandin, Catherine Johnson

★★★★★ 4.14 · Rating details · 8,767 ratings · 1,103 reviews

Why would a cow lick a tractor? Why are collies getting dumber? Why do dolphins sometimes kill for fun? How can a parrot learn to spell? How did wolves teach man to evolve?

Temple Grandin draws upon a long, distinguished career as an animal scientist and her own experiences with autism to deliver an extraordinary message about how animals act, think, and feel. She has a perspective like that of no other expert in the field, which allows her to offer unparalleled observations and groundbreaking ideas.

People with autism can often think the way animals think, putting them in the perfect position to translate "animal talk." Grandin is a faithful guide into their world, exploring animal pain, fear, aggression, love, friendship, communication, learning, and, yes, even animal genius. The sweep of Animals in Translation is immense and will forever change the way we think about animals.

How the clarifying focus of autism revealed how animals think, and how we need to shift our focus, to better understand animals

THE AGE OF EMPATHY

NATURE'S LESSONS
FOR A KINDER SOCIETY



FRANS DE WAAL

2009

The Age of Empathy: Nature's Lessons for a Kinder Society

by Frans de Waal

★★★★★ 3.99 ·  Rating details · 2,007 ratings · 186 reviews

"An important and timely message about the biological roots of human kindness."

—Desmond Morris, author of *The Naked Ape*

Are we our brothers' keepers? Do we have an instinct for compassion? Or are we, as is often assumed, only on earth to serve our own survival and interests? In this thought-provoking book, the acclaimed author of *Our Inner Ape* examines how empathy comes naturally to a great variety of animals, including humans.

By studying social behaviors in animals, such as bonding, the herd instinct, the forming of trusting alliances, expressions of consolation, and conflict resolution, Frans de Waal demonstrates that animals—and humans—are "preprogrammed to reach out." He has found that chimpanzees care for mates that are wounded by leopards, elephants offer "reassuring rumbles" to youngsters in distress, and dolphins support sick companions near the water's surface to prevent them from drowning. From day one humans have innate sensitivities to faces, bodies, and voices; we've been designed to feel for one another.

Understanding animals, understanding humans: Good news, we are kinder than we think

De Waal's theory runs counter to the assumption that humans are inherently selfish, which can be seen in the fields of politics, law, and finance, and which seems to be evidenced by the current greed-driven stock market collapse. But he cites the public's outrage at the U.S. government's lack of empathy in the wake of Hurricane Katrina as a significant shift in perspective—one that helped Barack Obama become elected and ushered in what may well become an Age of Empathy. Through a better understanding of empathy's survival value in evolution, de Waal suggests, we can work together toward a more just society based on a more generous and accurate view of human nature.

Written in layman's prose with a wealth of anecdotes, wry humor, and incisive intelligence, *The Age of Empathy* is essential reading for our embattled times.

Animals are like us



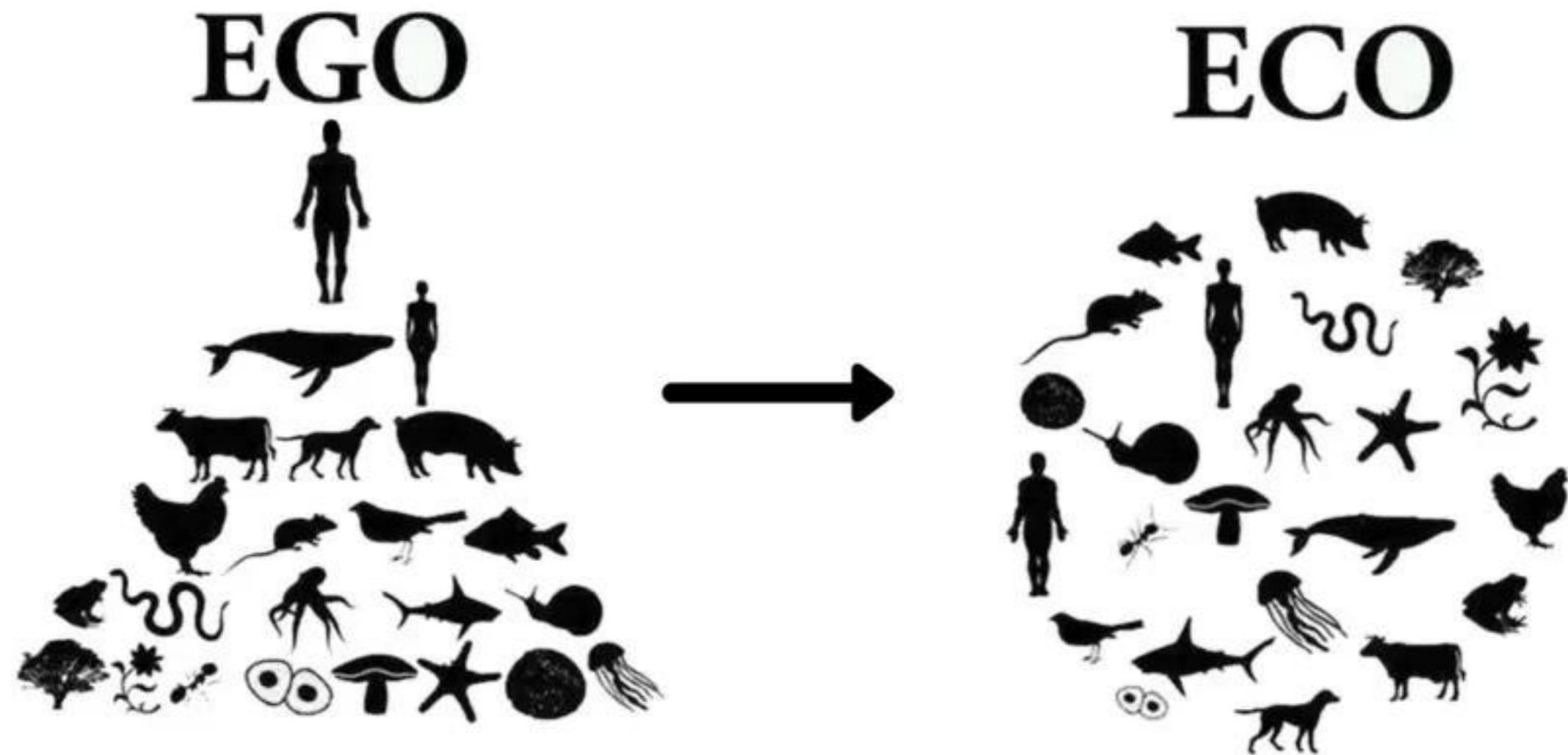
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what-drives-us/](https://acres.org.sg/about-acres/what-drives-us/)

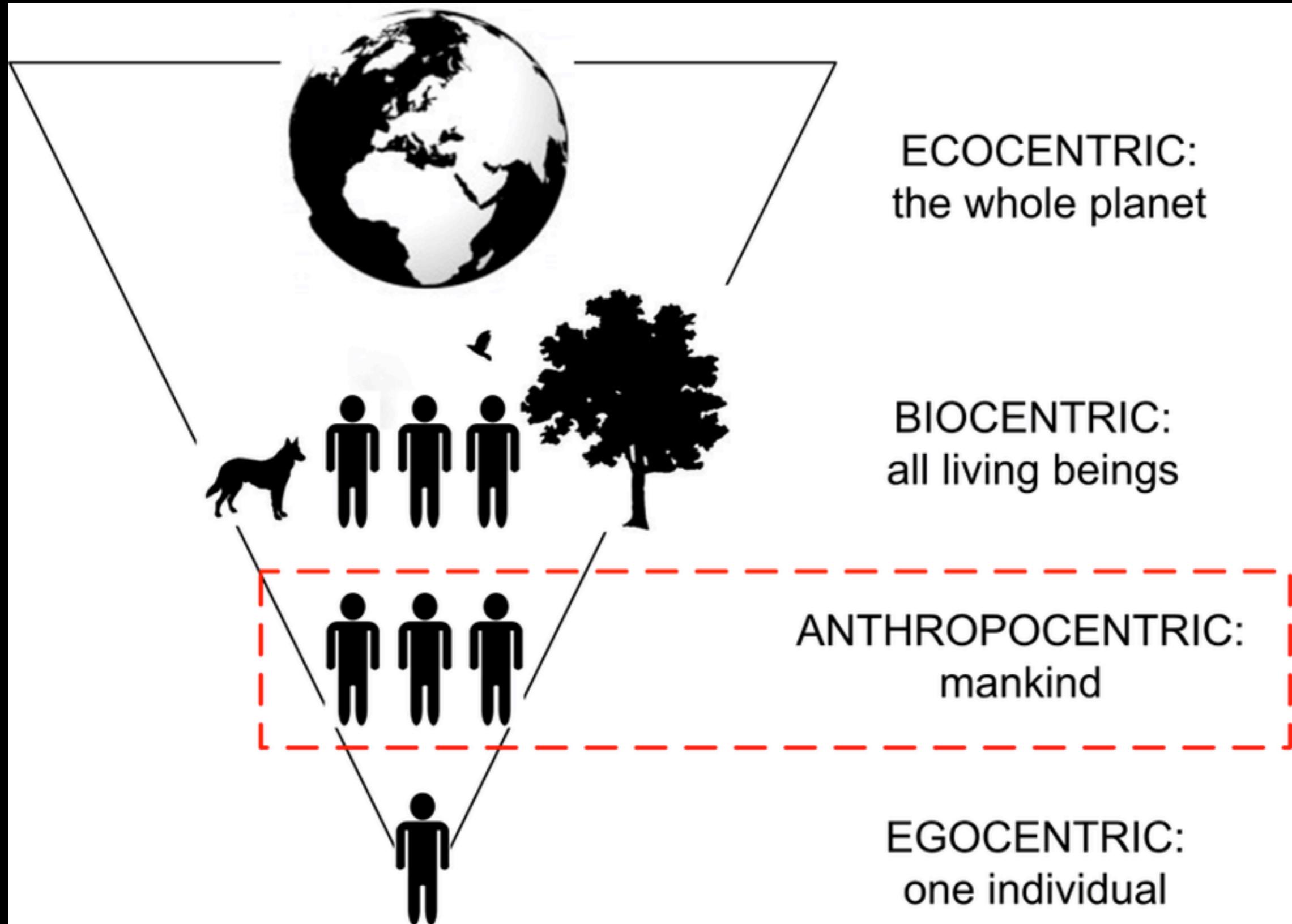
- ▼ Animals feel joy!
- ▼ Animals show true compassion and help others...even across species barriers
- ▼ Animals have friendships
- ▼ Animals are loyal
- ▼ Animals show gratitude
- ▼ Animals protect their young
- ▼ Animals show democracy
- ▼ Animals grieve
- ▼ Animals can get depressed
- ▼ Animals prefer smiles!
- ▲ Animals show a love of beauty

Some animals are known to enjoy things like music, or a beautiful scene.

A quick briefing on the ACRES webpage, which explains each of these statements

We must move from egocentric to ecocentric leadership to safeguard our planet





Schaubroeck, T. (2014). Including man-nature relationships in environmental sustainability assessment of forest-based production systems (Doctoral dissertation, Ghent University).

So what's happening in
Singapore?

What is the legal status?

- As specified by the law of the land
- Animal and Birds Act (Cap. 7, 2002 Rev. Ed.) in Singapore Statutes Online

The screenshot shows the Singapore Statutes Online PLUS interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, Browse, What's New, Help, About Us, PLUS, My Collections, and Search. On the right, there are buttons for FAQs, Feedback, and font size adjustment (A-, A+). The main content area displays the 'Animals and Birds Act' (CHAPTER 7) page. The page title is 'ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAPTER 7)' with a note '(Original Enactment: Ordinance 3 of 1965)'. It indicates a 'REVISED EDITION 2002' from 31st December 2002. The act's purpose is described as preventing the introduction of diseases and controlling animal movement. Below this, the 'PART I PRELIMINARY' section is shown, starting with the 'Short title' (cited as the 'Animals and Birds Act'). The 'Interpretation' section defines terms like 'aircraft' and 'animal'. The left sidebar contains a 'Table of Contents' for the act, listing chapters such as Part I (Preliminary), Part II (Importation, Transhipment, Exportation of Animals and Birds and Possession of Noxious Insects, etc.), and Part III (Penalties). It also includes sections for Importation, Interpretation, and a list of provisions numbered 1 through 11.

Animals and Birds Act X

Status: Current version as at 14 Apr 2021 i

Table of Contents

Animals and Birds Act (CHAPTER 7)

Long Title

Part I PRELIMINARY

- 1 Short title
- 2 Interpretation
- 3 Appointment of Director-General and authorised officers
- 4 Designation of authorised examiners
- 5 Public servants
- 6 Identification card to be produced

Part II IMPORTATION, TRANSHIPMENT, EXPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS AND POSSESSION OF NOXIOUS INSECTS, ETC.

Importation

- 7 Power to make orders with regard to importation, etc.
- 8 No person to import or tranship any animal, bird or veterinary biologics without licence
- 9 Importation or possession of noxious insects, pests or genetically modified organisms, etc.
- 10 Examination of imported animals and birds
- 11 Arrival of animal or bird to be reported

Reset Get Provisions

Timeline ▾ Subsidiary Legislation Amendment Annotation Actions ▾ Print Search Help

ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAPTER 7)

(Original Enactment: Ordinance 3 of 1965)

REVISED EDITION 2002
(31st December 2002)

An Act for preventing the introduction into, and the spreading within, Singapore of diseases of animals, birds or fish; for the control of the movement of animals, birds or fish into, within and from Singapore; for the prevention of cruelty to animals, birds or fish; for measures pertaining to the general welfare and improvement of animals, birds or fish in Singapore and for purposes incidental thereto.

[10/2002]

[22nd October 1965]

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Animals and Birds Act.

Interpretation

- 2.—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
“aircraft” includes any kind of craft which may be used for the conveyance of animals or birds by air;
“animal” means any mammal (other than man) or fish and includes any other living creature that is prescribed as an animal for the purposes of this Act or that falls within a class of animals that is

What is the legal status?

Part IV ANIMAL WELFARE AND PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

- 41 Interpretation of this Part
- 41A Codes of animal welfare
- 41B Use of codes of animal welfare in proceedings
- 41C Duty of care of animal owners
- 42 Cruelty to animals
- 43 Prescribed activities and services to be performed by qualified individuals
- 43A Power to issue directions
- 43B Disqualification orders
- 44 Orders by Magistrate when an offence has been committed
- 45 Power to order destruction of animals
- 46 No compensation for destruction of an animal incurably diseased or injured or destroyed at request of professed owner
- 47 Award to informer
- 48 Animals and birds not to be kept in captivity for sale, export or exhibition without licence

Duty of care of animal owners

- 41C.—(1) Every owner of an animal —
- (a) must take reasonable steps to ensure that —
 - (i) the animal is provided with adequate and suitable food and water, taking into account its dietary needs;
 - (ii) the animal is provided with adequate shelter;
 - (iii) the animal is not kept in confinement, conveyed, lifted, carried or handled in a manner or position that subjects the animal to unreasonable or unnecessary pain or suffering; and
 - (iv) the animal is protected from, and rapidly diagnosed of, any significant injury or disease;
 - (b) must not abandon the animal, or cause or permit the animal to be abandoned, whether permanently or temporarily, without reasonable cause or excuse;
 - (c) in the case where the animal is missing, must make reasonable efforts to recover the animal; and
 - (d) must take reasonable steps to ensure that the animal is cared for in accordance with the codes of animal welfare applicable to the animal.
- (2) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (1)(a), (b) or (c) shall be guilty of an offence.
- (3) A person who is guilty of an offence under subsection (2) shall be liable on conviction —
- (a) in the case where the person commits the offence in the course of carrying on, or employment or purported employment with, an animal-related business —
 - (i) for a first offence, to a fine not exceeding \$40,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both; and
 - (ii) for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both; and

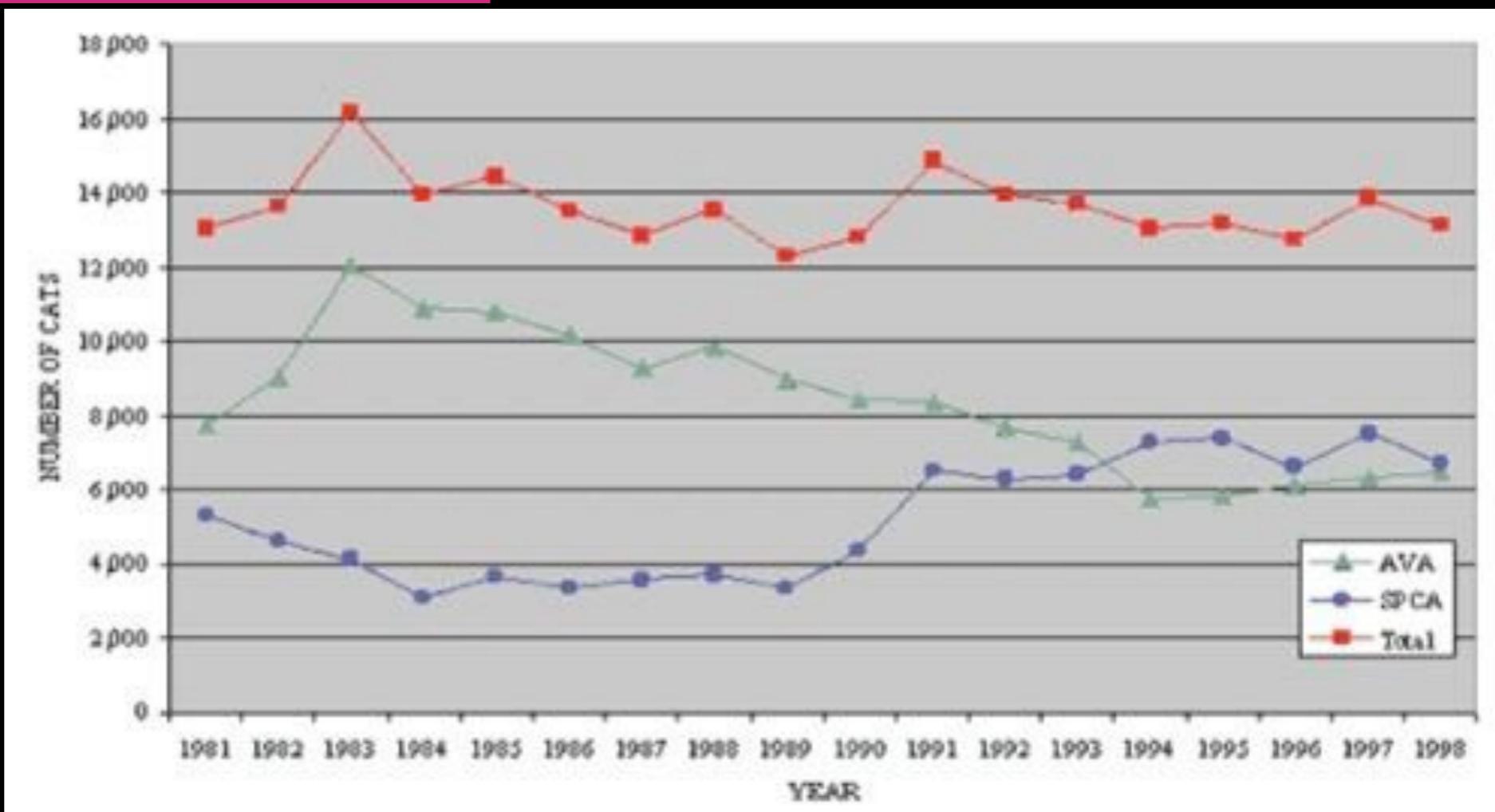
TNR proposed by AVA as a cat management alternative to culling

Lou, E. H., 2000. Stray cat sterilisation project at Bukit Merah View. [Singapore Veterinary Journal Online, 24.](#)

Introduction

Until about 3 years ago, culling was the only method officially recognised for the control of stray cats in Singapore. In November 1997, AVA (Agri-food & Veterinary Authority – then PPD) embarked on the Stray Cat Sterilisation Project at Bukit Merah View to explore the use of sterilisation and responsible management as an alternative method.

<https://blog.nus.edu.sg/lsm1303/scsp/>



Laws not enough – some animal charities and welfare groups in Singapore in the 2000s

- Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)
- Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES)
- House Rabbit Society Singapore (HRSS)
- Cat Welfare Society
- Love Kuching Project
- Animal Lovers League (ALL)
- Causes for Animals Singapore (CAS)
- Oasis Second Chance Animal Shelter (OSCAS)
- Mutts and Mittens
- Action for Singapore Dogs (ASD)
- Save Our Street Dogs (SOSD)

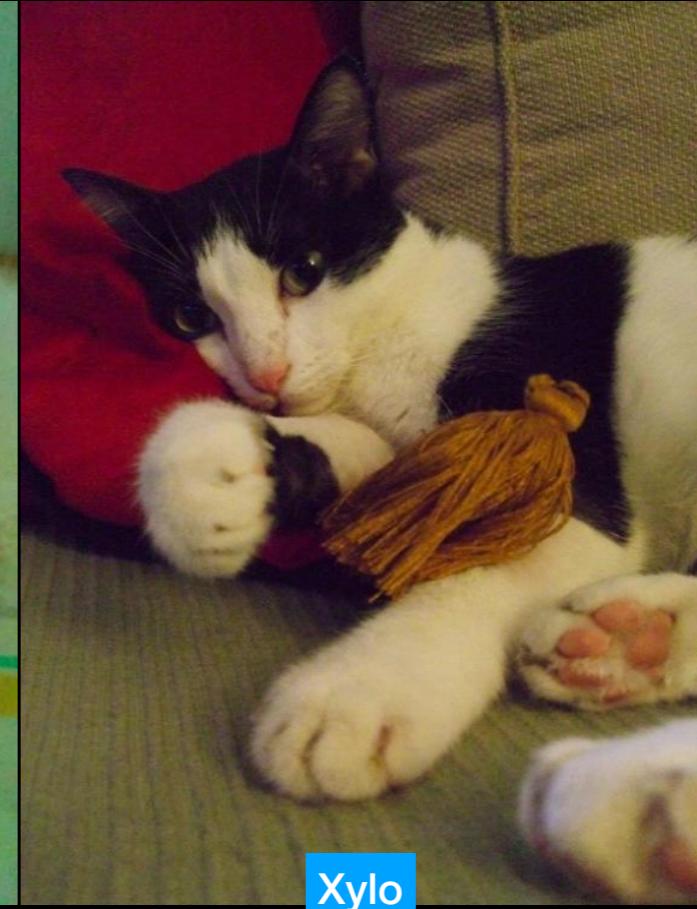
And many
shelters, e.g.
Uncle Khoe

What was it like before?

Community Cats during SARS: the extremely polarised episode between government and civil society (2003)

- The hasty abandonment of AVAs' Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme during SARS

Chan, Y. K. (2016). No room to swing a cat? Animal treatment and urban space in Singapore. *Southeast Asian Studies*, 5(2), 305-329.
https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/seas/5/2/5_305/_pdf



But something is
changing...

Coronavirus: Animal welfare groups to meet with MND and NParks amid falling donations and manpower crunch

Contrast!

The Govt works with animal groups (AWGs) during the COVID-19 pandemic (2020)



Fabian Koh

PUBLISHED MAY 7, 2020, 10:36 PM SGT

f w t ...

SINGAPORE - [The Covid-19 pandemic](#) is taking a toll on the operations of animal welfare groups in Singapore as donations drop and fewer volunteers allowed on premises.

Social distancing measures and circuit breaker regulations have prevented groups from holding regular fund-raisers and limited the number of volunteers who can care for the animals under their charge.

Ms Jessica Kwok, Group Director for Community Animal Management in the Animal and Veterinary Service (AVS) under the National Parks Board (NParks), told The Straits Times that a video conference would be held between the groups and the Ministry of National Development and NParks on Friday (May 8) to discuss the situation.

Contrast!

No pandemic panic – the case of the Marsiling cats (2020)

 **NUS PEACE**
Published by Sivasothi N. · 16 April 2020 · ...

"AVS said that the agency has been working with various agencies such as the town council, People's Association and the Cat Welfare Society (CWS) to improve the health and welfare of cats in Marsiling since February 2020.

Together with CWS, they have identified cats with responsible caregivers and have been updating these caregivers the ongoing effort to rehome the community cats without identified caregivers."



Ever since reports surfaced about cats, dogs and now tigers being tested positive for the coronavirus, I was worried that a repeat of what happened during SARS time in 2003 when AVA culled thousands of community cats on the rumors that SARS was spread by civet cats. I think my fear has now came true. 😔
5 d Like 6

Can anyone advise, where the cat go after being captured? I want to go and rescue my fatty cat. I am so sad and furious.

MOTHERSHIP.SG
NParks: Over 25 community cats from Marsiling have not been culled due to Covid-19, will be rehomed

NParks AVS is the agency cluster in charge of Animal Welfare in Singapore

- The Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS) is a cluster within the National Parks Board (NParks)
- Previously AVA, this entity was formed on 1 April 2019
- Significant changes in outlook were noticed by 2017



Audrey Tan
Science and Environment Correspondent



2017

2016 Nov – AVA makes a groundbreaking move in announcing that it will build a facility in Sungei Tengah

- The facility will house the 40 animal welfare groups and pet farms in Loyang and Seletar which will need to move out when the leases for their current premises expire.
- These groups will not have to cough up money to bid for new land and build facilities of their own.
- Instead, they will just pay monthly rental for space to house their animals at the facility, which will be ready in phases from now to the middle of next year.”



Audrey Tan
Science and Environment Correspondent



2017

Announcement of the first nationwide sterilisation programme for stray dogs in 2018

- “From building shelters to introducing sterilisation as a way of controlling the stray dog population, animal welfare groups here say they have noticed the Government is doing more to protect animals.”



Audrey Tan
Science and Environment Correspondent



“Public opinion towards protecting animal rights has ... shifted”

- ...said National University of Singapore sociologist Tan Ern Ser, who noted that animal groups are also becoming more vocal.
- He said: "In short, society is deemed to be ready to embrace animal rights."

AVS is the agency in charge of Animal Welfare in Singapore

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Who We Are, Pets, Animals, Outreach, Resources, News, E-Services, and a search function. Below the navigation bar are four images: two rabbits, a man petting a dog, children playing with a dog, and a close-up of a turtle's shell. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Animal-Related Businesses**: Includes links for Pet Shops, Animal Exhibitions, Farms, and Animal Management Companies. A "View more" link is also present.
- Animal Welfare**: Includes links for Animal & Pets Welfare and Claiming Animals.
- Management of Animals**: Includes links for Living with Community Animals in your Neighbourhood and Adopting a Community Animal.
- Wildlife & Endangered Animals**: Includes links for Wildlife in Singapore, Keeping of Wildlife as Pets, CITES, and Wildlife Management.
- Animal Health & Veterinarians**: Includes links for Veterinary and animal-related services during Covid-19, Animal Diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance, and Veterinary Licensing.
- Animals in Scientific Research**: Includes links for NACLR Guidelines, Animal Research Facilities, and Bringing In Laboratory Animals. This section is highlighted with a red border and a red arrow points from it to the final section.
- Law Guidelines Institutes**: This is the final destination of the red arrow.

Learning

Be Our Friend

Upcoming Events

Pets' Day Out

AVS Free Webinar Series



[AVS Free Webinar Series](#)

Missed the past webinar sessions? Tune in via the links below!

The Science of Animal Assisted Interventions

Advances in research have shown that pet ownership and animal assisted interventions have the potential to improve our health and wellbeing. Join us as we hear from internationally-renowned speakers, Dr Aubrey Fine and Dr Nancy Gee, to learn more about the progress of animal assisted interventions and how pets can benefit our health. Find out more about the speakers [here](#).

[25 Mar 2021: The State of Animal Assisted Interventions: A New Paradigm Shift For The Future | Dr Aubrey Fine](#)

[25 Mar 2021: Health Benefits of Companion Animals | Dr Nancy Gee](#)

How to Identify and Manage Your Pet's Anxiety

Does your pet cower in fear or run away when there are strangers in the house? There are many reasons why pets behave the way they do especially when they encounter someone unfamiliar. Learn how to identify the symptoms of anxiety in your pets and manage them properly through Dr Lin Anhui our AVS vet and Dr Chow Hao Ting from Joyous Vet.

[27 Feb 2021: How to Identify and Manage Your Pet's Anxiety](#)

The Science of Feline Behaviour

Advances in the scientific discipline of feline behaviour and training has contributed to positive changes in the way we interact with our feline companions. Join our international experts in discussing the scientific principles that underpin cat training, behaviour and welfare, and learn how we can enhance cat welfare and care through evidence-based approaches. Find out more about the speakers [here](#).

[25 Jan 2021: Cat Behaviour, Training and Handling | Ms Linda Ryan](#)

[26 Jan 2021: Cat Enrichment for Welfare | Dr Jenna Kiddie](#)

What you need to know about getting a pet this festive season

Before you get a pet as a present, join our AVS vet as he provides a glimpse into the process of getting a pet and how to be a responsible pet owner. Being a pet owner comes with more responsibilities than you think!

[19 Dec 2020: Responsible Pet Ownership: What you need to know about getting a pet this festive season](#)

The Science of Canine Behaviour

Animals are part of our community and their health and well-being are intrinsically linked with ours. We need to live harmoniously together, as we work towards making Singapore our City in Nature. Join us as we hear from internationally-renowned speakers, Dr Roger Abrantes and Dr Jenna Kiddie, to learn more on how to interact with our canine companions. Find out more about the speakers [here](#).

[27 Oct 2020: Principles of Animal Behaviour Modification | Dr Roger Abrantes](#)

[28 Oct 2020: Dog Enrichment for Welfare \(*video is no longer available*\) | Dr Jenna Kiddie](#)

Code of Animal Welfare

For Pet Owners

AVS (2017). Code
of Animal Welfare
for Pet Owners.

[https://
www.nparks.gov.s
g/avs/-/media/
avs_-caw_booklet-
\(eng\).pdf](https://www.nparks.gov.sg/avs/-/media/avs_-caw_booklet-(eng).pdf)

Introduction

Responsible pet owners provide appropriate care to their pets so that they are in a good state of welfare, i.e. the pets are healthy, comfortable, well-nourished and safe.

This Code of Animal Welfare (for Pet Owners) sets Minimum Standards and explains the responsibilities of pet owners to help you understand how to provide a good and comfortable life for your pet.

As an owner of an animal, you have a duty of care to the animal in your charge. An owner of an animal includes a person in charge of the animal. You would be considered the person in charge of an animal if the animal is, whether on a permanent or temporary basis, in your possession, custody or control, or under your care or supervision.

Failure to meet the Minimum Standards set out in this code may be used as evidence of (i) failure to comply with your duty of care towards an animal, (ii) animal cruelty, or (iii) any other offence committed under the Animals and Birds Act.

This Code of Animal Welfare (for Pet Owners) sets Minimum Standards and explains the responsibilities of pet owners to help you understand how to provide a good and comfortable life for your pet.

Unless specified otherwise, the Minimum Standards apply to all pets.

1 ACCOUNTABILITY OF PET OWNERS

- Do not leave your pet at any place without first making reasonable arrangements for its care.



- Secure your doors and gates to prevent your pet from escaping.



- If your pet is lost, you should make an effort to find it.
 - Make a missing pet report with the Police or AVS
 - Put up 'missing pet' advertisements
 - Get help from neighbours and animal welfare groups

3 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT & CARE

DIET & FEEDING



Diet & Feeding

- Provide your pet with a well-balanced and nutritious diet in adequate amounts at regular intervals.
- Clean drinking water should always be available.

HEALTHCARE

- Observe your pet daily and seek veterinary attention promptly if you notice any signs of injury, illness or disease.

ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE WELL-BEING

- Provide your pet with regular exercise and interaction (as appropriate to its species and health).
- Avoid using training methods and aids in a manner that may cause unnecessary pain or suffering.



HANDLING & TRANSPORT

- When handling and transporting your pet, do so in a manner that will not cause it injury or undue distress. It should be comfortable, safe and properly secured.
- If you are using a cage or carrier, you should ensure that your pet is able to comfortably stand, turn around and lie down.
- Your pet should not be transported in a car boot or any enclosed space with poor ventilation. It should also not be left unattended in vehicles.
- When travelling, make sure that your pet is not at risk of falling out. If carried in an open-top vehicle, care should be taken to ensure that it is not exposed to excessive rain, wind and sun.



- If you are using a cage or carrier, you should ensure that your pet is able to comfortably stand, turn around and lie down.

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2 ANIMAL HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

- Provide a safe, well-ventilated, comfortable and clean environment.



- Do not expose your pet to excessive noise, sunlight, heat, humidity or strong winds.

CONFINEMENT

- Keep your pet in a safe area to prevent escape.
- Pets that are not compatible should be housed separately, even if they are of the same species.



- BIRDS**
The cage should be large enough so that your pet's tail and outspread wings do not touch the sides of the cage. Perches should be appropriate in size, length and material for a comfortable grip. As some birds like parrots tend to chew the cage wiring, make sure the cages are made of materials that are safe and non-toxic.
- DOGS AND CATS**
Provide your pet with separate areas for rest, feeding, exercise and exploration. It should also have access to a separate toilet area. Cats kept in cages should be let out for supervised exercise daily.
- RABBITS, GUINEA PIGS, GERBILS, HAMSTERS AND CHINCHILLAS**
Other than clean and dry bedding, your pet should also have separate areas for rest, feeding, exercise and exploration.

- REST ZONE**
- PLAY ZONE**
- Provide nest boxes and hiding places for birds that are kept in aviaries. For birds that are kept in cages, a cloth should be draped over in the evening to let it rest and feel secure.
- Your pet may be tethered by a chain, leash, lead, halter or rope to restrict its range of movement.
- If your pet is tethered, the equipment used, the area and the way it is tethered should be safe and comfortable for it.
- Tethers should be fastened to a secure object that would not move, fall or hurt your pet. Choke chains should not be used for tethering.

- Tethers should not cause entanglement and strangulation. For dogs, the tether should be at least twice the length of the dog (nose to base of tail), and the anchor point should be low enough so that the dog can lie down comfortably.
- For birds, the tether should be long enough for it to move about comfortably.

TETHERING

- A choke chain is a continuous loop that slips through itself to form a collar at one end. It is placed on the dog's neck, behind the ears. A choke chain could tighten around the neck of your dog and result in strangulation. Therefore, it should only be used under supervision.

CARE FOR PREGNANT & INFANT ANIMALS

- Veterinary attention should be sought for your pregnant pet if it is experiencing birthing difficulties.



- After giving birth, a safe and comfortable environment should be provided for the mother and its offspring.

- Infant pets should be fully weaned before they are separated from their mother. Use milk replacers only if the mother does not produce enough milk or your pet is orphaned.

SPECIAL CARE (WING CLIPPING)

- Sometimes, the bird's feathers may be trimmed to restrict flight.
- Wing clipping, if done, should not cause undue stress and harm to your pet bird.



SPECIAL CARE (COLD CLIMATE DOG BREEDS)

- Cold climate dog breeds should be provided with adequate shade, fan ventilation or air-conditioning to keep cool. Do not subject them to physical exertion under the heat, and groom them regularly to prevent the accumulation of dead hair.



Code of Animal Welfare (for the Pet Industry)



The Code of Animal Welfare (for the Pet Industry) comprises:

- Minimum Standards** on animal housing, management and care, which pet businesses are expected to comply with; and
- Best Practices** on animal housing, management and care which pet businesses are encouraged to adopt to further raise the standard of animal welfare in Singapore.

A summary of the minimum standards is as follows:

1 ACCOUNTABILITY OF PET BUSINESSES

- No animal is to be left in any place without reasonable arrangements being made for the care of the animal.
- If an animal is lost, all reasonable measures must be taken to locate and retrieve it.

2 RECORD KEEPING

- Proper records must be kept for identification and traceability of animals.

3 PEST CONTROL

- There must be proper protocols for pest management of the premises to prevent the spread of diseases.
- When used, pest management chemicals must be in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions and safety precautions taken.

4 SECURITY

- Shop premises must be safe for the animals and secured to prevent the animals from escaping.
- There must be a plan for animal evacuation in the event of an emergency, such as fire.

14 VETERINARY ATTENTION & TREATMENT

- All animals that are injured or unwell must receive prompt veterinary attention.



13 DISEASE PREVENTION

- All pet businesses must have a disease prevention programme that includes vaccination and treatment for parasites.



12 HEALTH CHECKS & RECORDING

- All animals must be monitored daily to observe for signs of illness, injury or disease.
- Records of illness, injury or disease must be kept.
- Animals that appear unwell must be isolated and monitored more closely.

11 HANDLING & TRANSPORT

- Animals must not be handled in a manner that will cause injury or distress.
- During transport, measures must be taken to ensure the comfort and safety of the animal. Clean drinking water must be provided as necessary, e.g. when it is hot or on longer trips.
- Carriers used must be sturdy and of suitable size to allow freedom of movement.
- Animals must not be left unattended in vehicles in conditions that could result in heat stress or distress.
- Animals must not be transported in car boots or any enclosed spaces with poor ventilation.
- Vehicles and carriers used for transporting animals must be cleaned and sanitised after use.



5 HOUSING ENCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

- Animal enclosures must be in good condition, clean, safe, well-ventilated and provide proper shelter.
- The enclosures must allow the animal to move freely, turn around, lie down, stretch and stand upright on its hind legs.
- There must be a clean and comfortable area for the animal to eat and sleep.
- Separate housing must be provided for the following:
 - Animals of different species
 - Old, frail or sick animals
 - Aggressive animals
 - Parents with unweaned offspring

6 ENVIRONMENT

- Animals must not be exposed to excessive noise, sunlight, heat, humidity or strong winds.

7 HOUSEKEEPING

- Places where animals are kept must be cleaned, disinfected and kept dry.
- Chemicals used for cleaning and disinfecting must not be harmful to the animals.

10 ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE GENERAL WELL-BEING

- Animals must be allowed to exercise and interact in a safe environment.
- Supervision must be provided when animals are allowed to interact with each other.
- During training, methods and aids used must be appropriate and must not subject animals to unnecessary pain or suffering.

9 FOOD PREPARATION

- Food and water containers must be kept clean.
- Animal feed must be stored properly to prevent deterioration or contamination.

8 DIET & FEEDING

- Animals must be fed a well-balanced and nutritional diet.
- Animals must be provided with fresh drinking water.
- Animals that are housed together must have access to adequate food.

Please visit
www.nparks.gov.sg/avs
to view the full Code.



Strategies for managing free roaming dogs

- Working with AWGs
- How to feed responsibly (brochure!)
- Rehome/adoption
- TNRM for dogs instead of culling
- Trial for HDB adoption (Project ADORE)

When and where to feed?

Feeders should try to minimise human-dog conflicts and avoid areas which may pose a danger to both humans and dogs. Hence, feeders are advised to:-

- Feed at regular times and at a regular location;
- Feed at a quiet spot away from human and vehicle traffic;
- Feed away from areas where dogs may start guarding their feeding ground e.g. pavements.



 **Sivasothi N**
Lecturer at Department of Biological Sciences & Fellow at Ridge View R...
1d •

9-month job opportunity for graduates with NParks' AVS, to conduct animal population research studies as a Manager in the Animal Population Management Section of the Community Animal Management Division,

"These include population surveys to estimate the free-roaming dog (FRD) population and also assist with studying the movement of the FRDs using tracking technology. You will be involved in field work, data collection, statistical analysis, and scientific report writing."

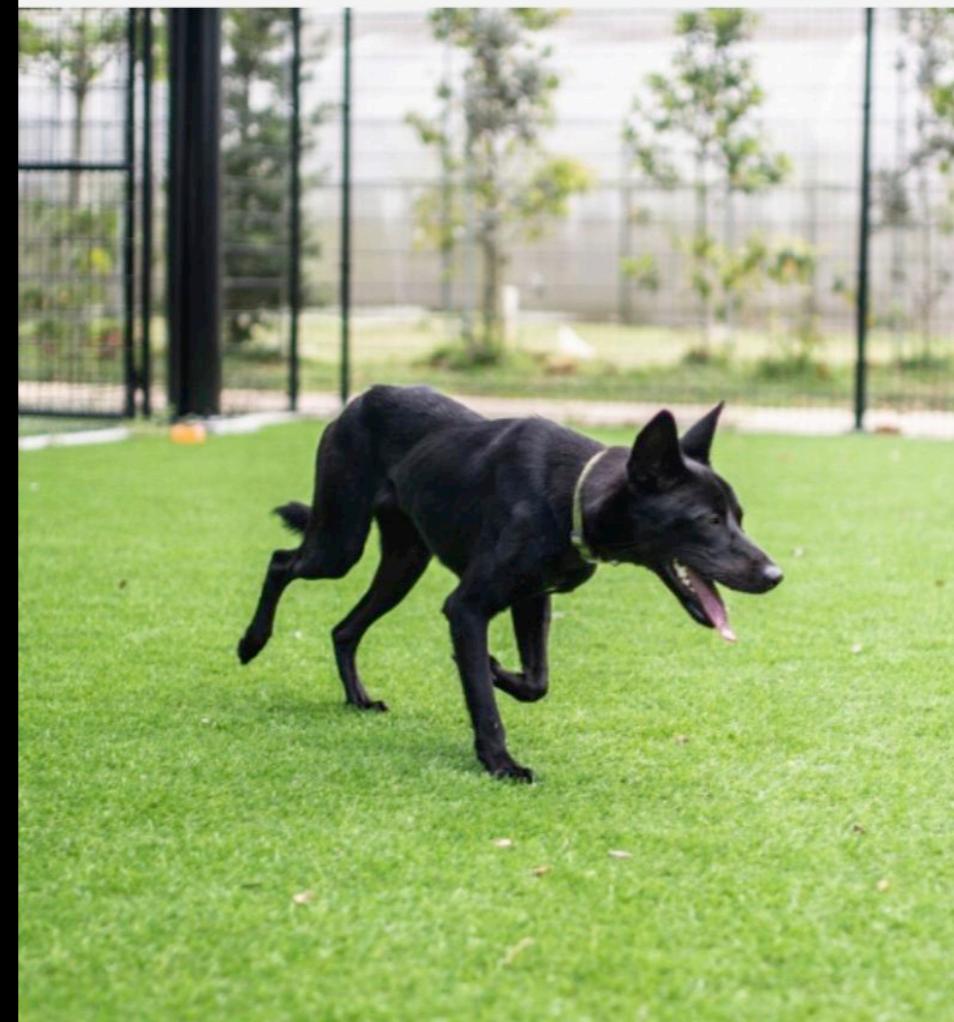


The Centre for Animal Rehabilitation was opened by the National Parks Board's (NParks) Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS) on 31 Mar 2022

S'pore opens 1st animal rehabilitation centre to help strays adapt to human homes

The centre has several activity rooms for obedience skills training, two dog runs and compartmentalised kennels with blinds.

Ashley Tan | March 31, 2022, 07:37 PM



Singapore now has its very first dedicated facility for animal behaviour rehabilitation.

The [Centre for Animal Rehabilitation](#) was opened by the National Parks Board's (NParks) Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS) on Mar. 31, and marks a key milestone in AVS' science-based efforts to manage the stray animal population in Singapore.

Project Rehab is a canine rehabilitation programme for stray dogs (2019)

- Stray dogs are mostly fearful and anxious when faced with new situations which can be an obstacle to adoption.
- AVS embarked on a pilot science-based canine rehabilitation programme, Project Rehab, in November 2019 to enhance the rehoming experience.
- Physical assessment, regular behavioural observations and assessments and customised behaviour modification plans. Then AVS works with rehoming partners to rehome the dogs.
- Rehabilitated dogs demonstrate positive behaviour towards humans and are able to live comfortably in a home setting, which increases their chances of being rehomed.
- More than 70 stray dogs have been successfully rehabilitated.

AVS expands efforts to manage stray animal population with the opening of the Centre for Animal Rehabilitation, Singapore's first dedicated facility for animal behavioural rehabilitation. NParks, 31 Mar 2022.

<https://www.nparks.gov.sg/news/2022/3/avs-expands-efforts-to-manage-stray-animal-population-with-the-opening-of-the-centre-for-animal-rehabilitation-singapore's-first-dedicated-facility-for-animal-behavioural-rehabilitation>

Lots to do still

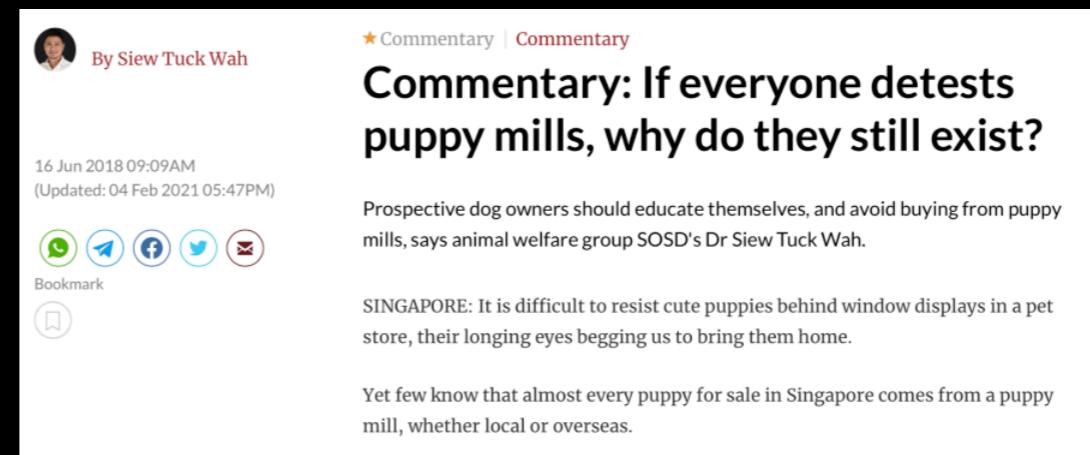
What about... .

- Pet abandonment [microchipping; enforcement]

Carrington, D. (2020, December 2). No-kill, lab-grown meat to go on sale for first time. The Guardian.
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/dec/02/no-kill-lab-grown-meat-to-go-on-sale-for-first-time>

Factory farming – severely artificial conditions enhanced by technology, genetic manipulation, feed enhancement, circumvention of laws (if they exist) [lab-grown meat approved in Singapore, 2020]

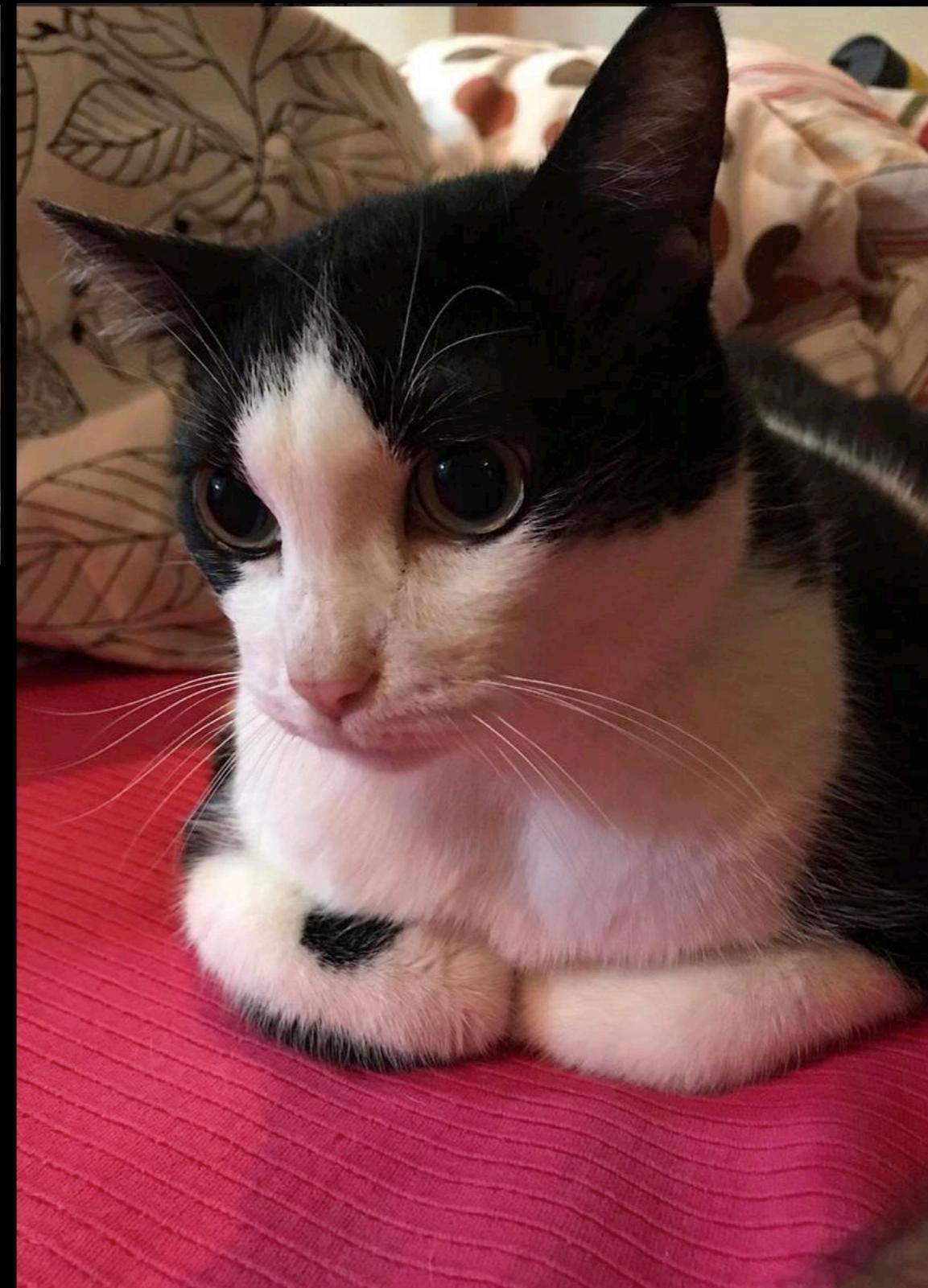
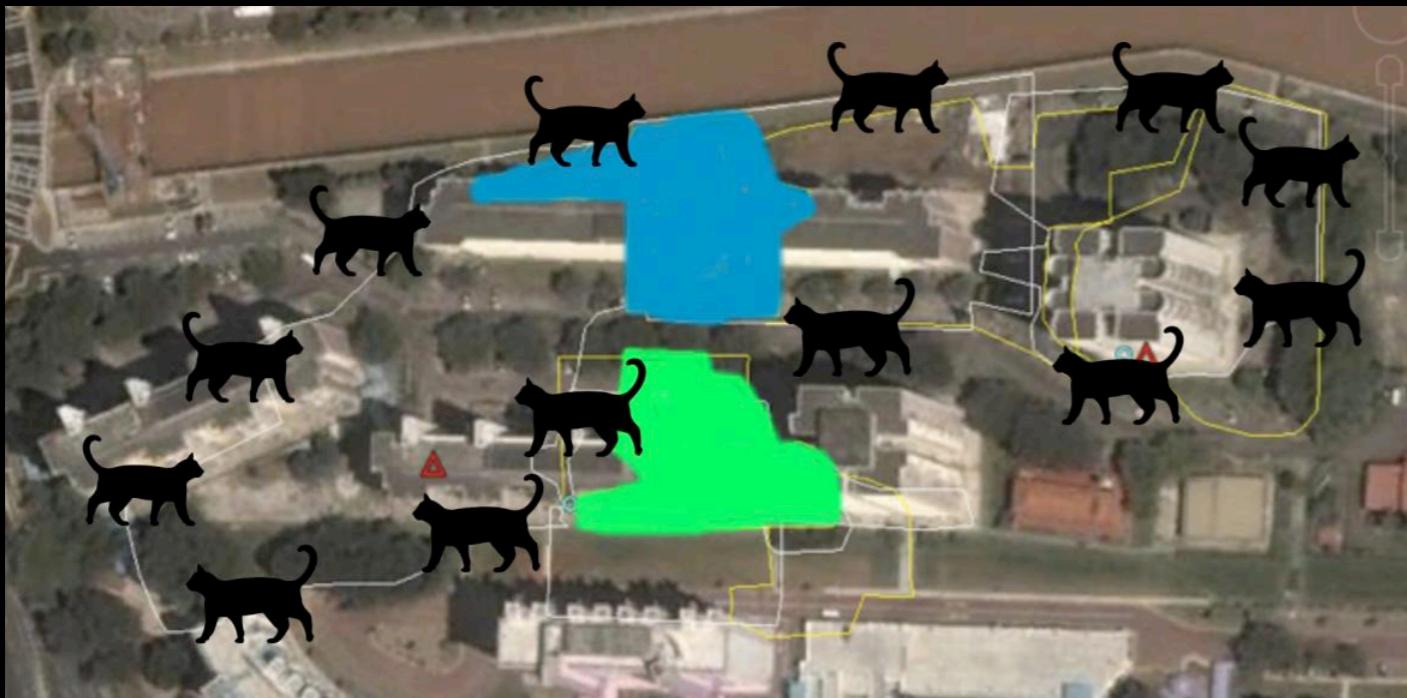
- Puppy mills?



The screenshot shows a news article from Channel NewsAsia. At the top left is a profile picture of Dr Siew Tuck Wah. To the right of the photo, it says "By Siew Tuck Wah". Below the author's name is the publication date "16 Jun 2018 09:09AM" and the last update "Updated: 04 Feb 2021 05:47PM". To the right of the date is a star icon followed by the word "Commentary". Below the author's name are social media sharing icons for WhatsApp, Telegram, Facebook, Twitter, and Email. Below these icons is a "Bookmark" button. The main title of the article is "Commentary: If everyone detests puppy mills, why do they still exist?". A short summary follows: "Prospective dog owners should educate themselves, and avoid buying from puppy mills, says animal welfare group SOSD's Dr Siew Tuck Wah." Below the summary is a section titled "SINGAPORE" with the text: "It is difficult to resist cute puppies behind window displays in a pet store, their longing eyes begging us to bring them home." At the bottom of the article is a concluding statement: "Yet few know that almost every puppy for sale in Singapore comes from a puppy mill, whether local or overseas."

Wah, S. T. (2021, February 4). Prospective dog owners should educate themselves, and avoid buying from puppy mills, says animal welfare group SOSD's Dr Siew Tuck Wah. CNA. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/commentary/everyone-finds-puppy-mills-repulsive-why-do-they-still-exist-10314926>

In captivity, how much space is enough?



THE ETHICS
OF CONFINING
ANIMALS: FROM
F FARMS TO ZOOS
TO HUMAN HOMES

DAVID DEGRAZIA

DegRazia, 2011

From April 1 2022, this is required of commercial pet breeders:

- Daily health checks for breeding pets and their litters
- Provide their animals with opportunities for social interaction, exercise and enrichment,
- Maintain documentary proof of vaccinations, annual health checks, veterinary treatment or surgical procedures.
- Breeding dogs can be used to produce only a maximum of one litter every year, and they must be retired when they turn six. In-breeding is also not allowed.
- The dogs must be sterilised within six months of retirement, and licensees will need to ensure there is post-retirement care for retired breeding pets, either in continuing to care for them on the farm or rehoming them.

THE STRAITS TIMES

Sweeping changes in licensing conditions for pet boarders, breeders to improve animal welfare



These changes to licensing conditions for the pet boarding and breeding sector follows more than two years of public consultation with industry players. PHOTO: ST FILE

Education is the key



- NUS PEACE
- NUS Cat Cafe
- Paw Friends
- Therapy Dogs Programme
- NUS VEGE



About

NUS PEACE, which stands for **P**eople **E**nding **A**nimal **C**ruelty and **E**xploitation, is an interest group affiliated with the National University of Singapore (NUS).

Established in 2006 by a few dedicated NUS students, they got together and decided to make a positive change in the world by fighting for the causes that they cared for. The idea that got us all excited was a simple one: To make the world a better place for animals.

Mission

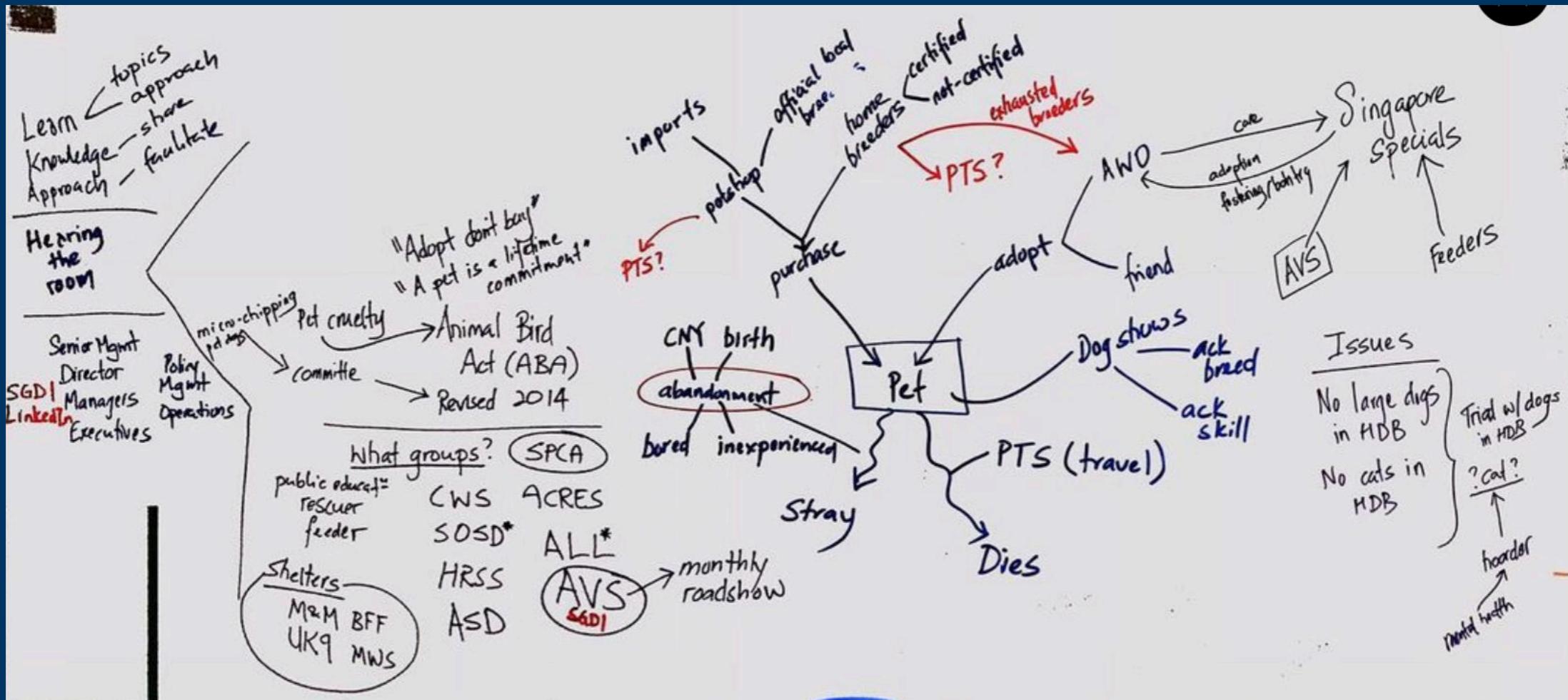
NUS PEACE fosters the love and respect that all animals deserve through **education, advocacy and action**, by connecting with others in the community who care.

Vision

NUS PEACE aims to be a strong voice for animals by addressing often neglected issues concerning pets, farm animals, laboratory animals, animals in entertainment and in the wild.

...find them on Instagram

Learn and take action in any way...



From a discussion with PEACE leadership

If you wish to read, learn or act, find me on @otterman



ACRES: Focus on compassion...

“Unsung heroes,” by JD Wild Productions (2022)



Over 629 Active Volunteers