

Scenarios

Scenario One:

It was recently discovered that a couple living in Somewhereville had over 20 greyhound racing dogs in their four-room apartment. "The stench and filth were beyond words," reported one of the investigating deputies. Charged with animal cruelty, the couple maintained that they only "adopted" greyhounds that were abandoned by their owners because they were no longer able to compete. "Otherwise they would be killed. We thought we were helping," the couple said. Hearing this story on the radio prompted another couple, Mr. and Mrs. Little to donate \$30,000 to the Somewhereville Animal Shelter to take in all of these dogs until they might be adopted by other families.

Method of Advocacy:

Scenario Two:

The *Anywhereville Newspaper* recently reported the story about a race horse who had taken a fall during training. While the jockey suffered only minor damages, the horse broke its leg. The newspaper indicated that the horse would probably need to be put down due to the high cost in time and money it would require to nurse the horse back to health. A twelve-year-old horse lover, having read about the incident, wrote an editorial in the local newspaper begging for someone who might be interested and able to consider taking the horse. High Horse Farms, located five miles outside Anywhereville, read the twelve-year-old's letter and agreed to "adopt" the horse and pay for its care.

Method of Advocacy:

Scenario Three:

Elwood's mom would not allow him to have or raise a show animal for the 4-H County Fair. "All my friends have something to show at the fair," he pleaded. "Caleb has a sheep, Marissa a cow, Dawson a rooster..." But despite Elwood's efforts to change her mind, his mom held fast to her decision. Elwood decided that the only way he would ever "have" a show animal would be to become a volunteer at the locale Animal Shelter. Talking it over with his mom, Elwood now volunteers at the Animal Shelter two Saturday mornings a month. "It's sort of like having my own "show animal," except now I have a lot of them!" Elwood confessed. He is now trying to encourage his cousin, whose mother also refuses to allow her to raise a show animal, to come and join him on the Saturdays he volunteers at the shelter.

Method of Advocacy:



Scenario Four:

Mr. Winter's 8th grade class read about the "dancing bears" of India. Kidnapped from their mothers at the age of 3-5 weeks, the bears are taught to dance to earn money for their trainers. The baby bear's very sensitive nose is pierced with an iron needle, and a "control rope" is inserted in the hole. Then the trainer pulls the control rope and claps a heavy stick to motivate the bear to lift its legs and "dance" for money. Before the bear is one year old, its incisor and canine teeth are ripped out and sold as lucky charms. Even though this practice was outlawed by the Indian Wildlife Protection Act in 1972, it continues in some places, a carryover from the 16th century, when bears were forced to dance for the entertainment of ruling classes. The sloth bear's normal life expectancy is approximately thirty years in its natural living environment. Sadly, India's dancing bears barely ever live past the age of eight. Once a bear is captured and tamed, it can never be returned to the wild. The only possible answer for these poor creatures is retirement in a sanctuary. If this horrible form of entertainment continues, this beautiful species will surely become extinct. Mr. Winter's class decided to collect 1000 signatures and compose a letter to send the government of India, encouraging them to strictly enforce the law concerning "dancing bears."

Method of Advocacy:

Scenario Five:

The County Fair in Nowheresburg features annual tractor and pony pulls. In the tractor pull, a tractor pulls a heavy sled along a track. As it moves, the sled digs into the ground and becomes more and more difficult to pull. The winner of the event is determined by the tractor that pulls the heavy sled the longest distance.

The pony pull operates much the same way. Teams of horses compete to pull the heavy sled as far as they are able. The owner of the team that pulls the sled the farthest wins money. Maria loves the tractor pulls. She enjoys seeing the belching black smoke and hearing the roar of engines straining against the weight of the sled. But she feels much differently about the horse pull. In fact, she will not go to any pull event that features horses (or any other pulling animals) even if a tractor pull is also featured.

Method of Advocacy:

