

American Greyhound Council



FACT SHEET: ANIMAL RIGHTS QUOTES

The best way to learn about the animal rights philosophy is from the words of its leaders. They have articulated an agenda that is extreme by most reasonable standards. Here's a sampling of their statements:

Humane Society of the United States

John Hoyt, former President

"There is a developing ethical consciousness within our society and culture that views the exploitation of animals for any non-essential purpose as wholly inappropriate."

(Speech to greyhound racing executives, August 29, 1984)

Michael Fox, former Vice President

"Humane care (of animals) is simply sentimental, sympathetic patronage."

(1988 Newsweek interview)

"The life of an ant and the life of my child should be accorded equal respect."

(Associated Press, Jan. 15, 1989)

"We are not superior. There are no clear distinctions between us and animals."

(*Washingtonian Magazine*, February 1990)

Wayne Pacelle, President and CEO

"We have no problem with the extinction of domestic animals. They are creations of selective breeding. One generation and out."

(*Animal People*, May 1993)

"We want Americans to eat fewer animals."

(*DVM News*, Jan 1, 2008)

J.P. Goodwin, Humane Society of the United States, former Executive Director of the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade

"My goal is the abolition of all animal agriculture."

(AR-Views, animal rights Internet discussion group in 1996)

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PeTA)

Ingrid Newkirk, Founder, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PeTA)

"Animal liberationists do not separate out the human animal, so there is no basis for saying that a human being has special rights. A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy. They're all mammals."

(*Vogue*, September 1989)

On animal rights arson and violence: "Would I rather the research lab that tests on animals is reduced to a bunch of cinders? Yes."

(*New York Daily News*, December 12, 1997)

On dog breeding and pet ownership: "Pet ownership is an absolutely abysmal situation brought on by human manipulation. We would no longer allow breeding. As the surplus of cats and dogs declined, eventually companion animals would be phased out, and we would return to a more symbiotic relationship—enjoyment at a distance."

(*Harper's Magazine*, August 1988)

"I'm not only uninterested in having children. I am opposed to having children. Having a purebred human baby is like having a purebred dog; it is nothing but vanity, human vanity."

(*New Yorker* magazine, April 23, 2003)