



Dane County Humane Society Board of Directors Position Statement

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Experimentation on Animals

The Dane County Humane Society (DCHS) feels the systems and oversight governing the current state of animal experimentation and research in the United States are inadequate in the areas of disclosure and transparency to the public, enforcement and monitoring of existing regulatory guidelines, and enforcement of disciplinary action when abuses are found.

In order to deter abuses and neglect to the animals being experimented on, DCHS advocates for more disclosure and transparency to the public regarding the approval, monitoring, and enforcement of experiments and research carried out on animals. DCHS would also like to see stronger regulatory and monitoring systems put in place that are audited by independent entities rather than self-regulated and carry sufficient penalties to deter abuses.

This is aligned with the research establishment's own philosophy of humane experimental methods, which they refer to as the "three Rs" – reduction, refinement and replacement -- of animals in the life sciences. Through stronger regulatory oversight and enforcement, as well as the earnest adherence to the "three Rs", DCHS believes, just as it can foresee a day when animal shelters are no longer necessary, it can also look forward to a time when the progress of science can succeed without the use of animal experiments.

References:

Alan M. Goldberg, Joanne Zurlo, Deborah Rudacille. (1996 Jun 07). The Three Rs and Biomedical Research. *Science*. 272(5267): 1403. DOI:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1126/science.272.5267.1403>

"What are the 3Rs?". National Centre for Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research. Retrieved August 14, 2013. Accessed:
<http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/page.asp?id=7>