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EDITORIAL

7755 SUNSET BOULEVARD • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90046 • TELEPHONE (213) 874-7700

#27-78

Subject: Humane Animal Control - IV

Broadcast: April 24, 1978

In previous editorials, we've talked about the pet population explosion and some of the things we can do to control it. Another part of the problem that needs attention is humane animal care. There's a bill in Sacramento now - Senate Bill 1979 - which would set standards for housing and care of animals in shelters on a statewide basis. It covers the need to have adequate water available, food that's free from contamination, adequate disposal of waste to prevent odor and spread of disease, shelter from heat and rain in outside areas, and adequate space and ventilation for indoor enclosures. Another important point is the right of public access to areas where animals are kept. KBIG/KBRT thinks this would help prevent abuse. It shouldn't be necessary to legislate these basic humane measures - but it is. Let your legislator know you support humane animal control.

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#26-78

Subject: Humane Animal Control - III

Broadcast: April 21, 1978

Animals have played a continuous but changing role in our society. Now we're at the stage where we have a choice between control and chaos. If you doubt this, consider the numbers: 800,000 dogs and cats in the city of Los Angeles alone! Here are some of the ways KBIG/KBRT thinks we can take action. First, pet owners should "own up" to their responsibility to keep pets confined - or on a leash. Increased penalties for leash law violation are needed. The fee for a license should include stiffer penalties for owners who do not have their pets spayed or neutered. Cat licenses should also be required. This would help provide additional revenue for better animal shelter services. Another important item is to have every dog or cat tagged, by license or by a permanent tattoo, so lost animals can be returned to their owners. Shelters should operate with a uniform set of rules, with evening and weekend hours. And at least seven days should be allowed before an unclaimed animal is killed. Let's control our animals, not destroy them.

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#25-78

Subject: Humane Animal Control - II

Broadcast: April 19, 1978

Thousands of pets are born here in Southern California every year. And every year thousands must be destroyed. It's a pretty shabby commentary on our society. People seem to ignore the facts of life. One pair of animals can produce dozens of offspring. And those dozens produce hundreds, and the hundreds, thousands. Then we find ourselves trying to decide on the least painful and most efficient way of killing them. KBIG/KBRT thinks it's time to make some changes. First, pet owners must take responsibility. They must make sure their animals do not add to the pet population. That part is simple. Pets must be spayed or neutered, unless needed for breeding, and then they must be carefully controlled. Low-cost clinics and services are available. And sterilization does not hurt the animals. If you are a pet woner, it's your responsibility to make sure your animal does not add to the pet overpopulation problem. For those who refuse to accept that responsibility, stronger legal or financial persuasion may be necessary. More on that in our next editorial on animal control.

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EDITORIAL

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#24-78

Subject: Humane Animal Control - I

Broadcast: April 17, 1978

One of the most depressing services that an animal shelter performs is euthanasia. . . depressing because it means the death of an animal, depressing because it means that animal has been neglected or abandoned by a human being, and because it means that another human being must perform an act which is dehumanizing. Over 76,000 animals were destroyed last year in the City of Los Angeles alone. The methods used vary. Chloroform is used in a few cases, injection of lethal drugs in others, but the high altitude decompression chamber is the most widely used method, as well as the most controversial. The American Veterinary Medical Association says the chamber is a humane method for the mass destruction of animals. But another panel is convening to consider the matter again. Regardless of the method, the situation should not be allowed to continue. We must stop this needless destruction of animals. In our next editorial, we'll tell you how you can help.