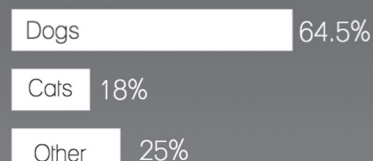


Animal Cruelty Stats



Which animals are most commonly abused:



Important Percentages



70%

The amount of animal abusers that were also convicted of other crimes.



32%

The amount of mothers that reported their children had harmed animals.



90%

The amount of chickens that have trouble walking due to genetic manipulation.

Information from:
<http://www.americanhumane.org/>
<https://www.dosomething.org>

How man harms his best friend

A brief opinion on the harsh impact of humans on animals

By: Kasi Rupert @KasiBelleRupert

She looks up painfully with a betrayed feeling in her heart. Her tiny face screams “What did I do wrong?” Cuts and bruises cover her body, and she shakes with fear. Another little one waits outside to be fed. He is gaunt with a mouth as dry as a desert. These souls that were once lively will soon be no more due to the carelessness of their domestic protectors. These creatures take the title of pets, and sadly, they are treated this poorly more often than most think.

There are laws to protect against animal cruelty, but they are often ignored. Something as simple as leaving a dog outside when the pavement is hot from the sun can be harmful, and therefore a form of abuse. Some owners just let their pets remain unfed or thirsty, too. If they wouldn’t do that to children, they shouldn’t do it to animals either. Pets automatically rely on a human to provide for them after they’re adopted, so letting them down breaks their trust for humans right away.

Many people claim that animals don’t deserve as much respect as humans because they’re not as intelligent. However, tons of animals are wiser than we think. Primates have an amazing communication system, and dogs are able to learn tricks at the sound of a commands. People also abuse animals because they think that they’re simply a resource. After animals are treated terribly, they will be less likely to cooperate with people that collect their resources. Additionally, all resources run out at some point. If animals are harmed to the point of extinction, there will be no more resources to utilize. It’s important to treat someone that gives resources well and give them constant respect.

It may not be as common today, but testing products that could be harmful on animals is still something that happens. Also, some animals used for food are unnecessarily tortured before they are slaughtered. Some chicken are hung by their feet and scalded alive. Average citizens may not be able to do much about this, but organizations such as PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) try to spread awareness about these cruelties in hopes that some day they will come to an end. Support for these types of animals rights organizations are much appreciated. People should take care of their pets when they have them because they deserve to be cared for as well as any person does.

These are some various facts about the general treatment of animals.

Freshman finding their footing

By: Alex Coleman, @Its_YoPaIAI

Height difference, voice changes, general style, attitude, intelligence, awkwardness: these are all things that create a set boundary between child, teenager, and young adult. Before the start to high school, teenagers are often told that this is the time to start figuring out who they are. As a freshman, one is much more prone to take the bad side of all these things in the process of self discovery. Psychologically, there’s a period that begins during the early middle school years and ends somewhere towards the center of the high school experience that makes acceptance a key component of development. As humans, we wish to fit in, to be acknowledged by our peers as an equal.

To those not still in the awkward first year of high school, freshman often seem amateurish and annoying. More often than not, there’s some upperclassman saying ‘well when I was a freshman’ to remove merit of these childish actions. Improper hallway behavior, bad attitude towards teachers and colleagues and the refusal to let go of ‘the popular status’ are a few things older students accuse the younger ones of. Quite frankly, most freshman are guilty of these behaviors, but so was everyone else when they were new to the school.

The difference between the class of ‘19 compared to the classes before them seems very apparent. It’s strange in the sense that

most people desire to fit in, so why is this class standing out? This year alone, more freshman have refused to participate in school-sanctioned events purely because they’re afraid it will deem them ‘uncool’. They lack interest in school dances, they rolled their eyes at the supposedly lame themes of spirit week, and they don’t come to the sporting events dressed accordingly. Not all freshman are guilty of this fate, but there is a large number that would admit to these habits.

Participating in high school is a massive right of passage. Whether it’s Homecoming week, a volleyball tournament hosted by the school or joining extracurriculars after hours, the only way one can truly experience the joys of high school is by taking part. Sitting on the sidelines may seem cool, maybe it’s what all the ‘popular kids’ are doing even. However, senior year, flashing back to the time wasted trying to act better than fellow classmates, it’s almost guaranteed that any individual uninvolved in their school community will regret their lack of spirit.

Don’t worry, if these words ring true there is still time for redemption. Go to the sporting events with a group of friends, go to as many school dances as possible, don’t be afraid to sport school colors when necessary. This is not just true for freshman, but anyone who feels this way. Whether or not we as students are stoked about it, this is our school. How will we choose to represent it?

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