

Primate Experimentation in the U.S. – University of Wisconsin, Madison

The Facts About Primate Experimentation

Primate experimentation in the U.S. is out of control. Approximately 120,000 primates are imprisoned in US labs, an increase of 24% in the last ten years.

Funding for primate experimentation has also increased reaching \$1.6 billion during fiscal 2004. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is responsible for most of this waste with 93% of NIH-funded primate projects not relevant to the diseases (heart disease, cancer, etc.) that are killing humans.

Widespread Suffering

The species most often experimented on are: rhesus monkeys, baboons, squirrel monkeys, and chimpanzees.

Laboratory isolation is severely stressful to primates. In fact, 10% of isolated primates are so severely stressed that they begin to engage in self-injurious behavior.

University of Wisconsin, Madison (UW) –



1600 primates imprisoned -- UW reports reveal stunning abuses in which primates are dying with brain infections sufficient to have liquefied the cerebrum. One primate died with a foreign object lodged in the intestinal tract, while another was killed during preparation for surgery when an endotracheal tube tore the monkey's throat.

Other primates at the UW died with severe cases of pneumonia, as well as full-thickness ulcerations of the skin.

In many instances these conditions were the result of devices implanted into the spinal chord of the deceased monkeys. Other monkeys died with meningitis which resulted from 'headcaps' which had been attached to the skull.

A female rhesus monkey (r87095) apparently died of "peritoneal and uterine rupture during delivery with subsequent sepsis. The sepsis was most likely the cause of death of this animal."

Rhesus Monkey r94075, who is classified as an experimental death, died with "Severe multifocal chronic tract formation with fibrosis and mild multi-focal chronic meningitis and choroid plexitis, cerebrum, hypothalamus, meninges."

Three marmosets cj0549, cj0475 and cj0543 are all listed with serious skin conditions such as: "Severe focally extensive full thickness necrosis with regionally extensive mild subacute paniculitis, skin (implant site). Marmoset cj0549 is also listed as "On the back over the mid-spine is a 5 mm long, full thickness skin wound from which one end of a 2 cm capsular implant protrudes."



Violations of Federal Law

The UW violated the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) 20 times in a recent nine month period. The violations were in the areas of inadequate veterinary care, housing and Institutional Animal Care & Use Committees. The UW was fined almost \$7000 by the USDA for incidents in 2004 & 2005, including one tragedy which killed three marmosets in a cage washer. In 2005 a dog died at the UW due to inadequate veterinary care.

Government Waste

Most primates are not used in experiments that study the diseases that kill most Americans. Projects that study primate psychology, alcohol & addictive drugs, brain mapping, and sex in primates far outnumber studies involving heart disease or cancer.

What you can do to help:

1. Read, copy, and distribute this fact sheet.
2. Write to your federal legislators to request a General Accounting Office (GAO) investigation of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded primate experimentation.

The Honorable _____	202-234-3121
U.S. House of Representatives	www.house.gov
Washington, D.C. 20515	
Senator _____	202-234-3121
U.S. Senate	www.senate.gov
Washington, D.C. 20510	
3. Send as large a tax-deductible donation as you can afford to Stop Animal Exploitation NOW! (SAEN) to support this campaign.

Stop Animal Exploitation NOW!

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