Humane Education Bibliography

The National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE), education division of The Humane Society of the United States, is soliciting contributions for an annotated bibliography of research with relevance to the theory and practice of humane education. Areas of research to be covered in the bibliography include the development of attitudes toward animals, moral development, prosocial behavior, educational theory and practice, and the human-animal bond.

"We want to gain a better understanding of how people learn about and develop attitudes toward animals, and we're particularly interested in the role that education plays in this process," says NAAHE Research Associate Vanessa Malcarne. "Research in this area will help us to more effectively promote positive interactions between people and animals through humane education." Contributions for the bibliography can be submitted to NAAHE at Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423.

NAAHE is also available as a resource to individuals conducting research with relevance to humane education. NAAHE offers consultant services to researchers, maintains a reference library and research masterfile, and provides referrals to other researchers studying similar topics.

First of a Kind Experience for Science Students

Fifty college freshmen and high school students from twenty-two states, selected from a large pool of highly qualified applicants, participated in one week of activities focusing on the scientific aspects of alternatives to animal tests. They also looked into certain legal and political factors which bear on the use of animals for experimentation. This program was funded by a grant from the American Fund for Alternatives to Animal Research. The American Fund has supported diverse scientific activities aimed at developing alternatives to the use of animals.

The main activity involved formal instruction in tissue culture techniques and the use of such tools for toxicity testing. Such a focus stems from the fact that tissue culture or in vitro techniques offer the greatest promise for the soonest reduction in the use of animals for toxicity testing. At the present time about 70 million animals are used annually for animal research and testing.

This program provided the attendees with an opportunity to gain special insights as well as practical experience. It is believed to be the only one of its kind for high school and college students contemplating a biomedical career. The students were introduced to a variety of short term alternative tests. They also
performed several of these tests in the laboratory, including tests for mutagenesis and cytotoxicity. Field trips to the National Institutes of Health and Capitol Hill, where they were addressed by a key staff member of the Committee on Science and Technology, complemented their classroom instruction.

The program was held from July 5th to 16th, 1983, at the Center for Advanced Training in Cell and Molecular Biology, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., directed by Dr. Roland M. Nardone.

Inquiries regarding the program or the American Fund for Alternatives to Animal Research (AFAAR) may be addressed to Ethel Thurston, Ph.D., 175 West 12th Street, Suite 16G, New York, New York 10011.

Symposium Announcement

"Can Love Be Taught?-Animals, Empathy, and Education"

A one-day symposium titled "Can Love Be Taught?-Animals, Empathy, and Education" will be held as part of the 1983 Annual Conference of The Humane Society of the United States, October 12-15, 1983, at the Americana Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas.

The symposium will be co-sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education and the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems, divisions of The Humane Society of the United States. National experts in child development, Dr. Nancy Eisenberg-Berg and Dr. Caroline Zahn Waxler will discuss the development of empathy in children, while other experts discuss childhood attitudes toward animals; the role of educators in developing empathy; and educational methods. The morning program features lectures and presentation of papers. The afternoon program features panel discussions covering the application of theories about empathy to educational practice. The intended audience for the symposium includes educators, psychologists, parents, and other interested people.

For program and registration information write: HSUS Annual Conference Information, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037 or call: (202) 452-1100. Individuals may register for the symposium only, which will be held October 12, or for the entire conference.