Breeding Surplus
Dogs and Cats
Causes Suffering

Not so long ago a two year old baby was killed in St. Louis County, Mo., by a pack of stray, starving dogs. Some of you may have read about it. All of us, from time to time, read of abandoned, hunger-crazed dogs attacking livestock and other animals.

These tragedies stir public anger. They often provoke retaliation in which scores of innocent dogs are killed. They create, for many people, a hatred of dogs.

And, yet, the dogs are not usually to blame. The hunger-driven, half-crazed dog pack is simply a by-product of the greatest cruelty facing the humane movement: the overbreeding of dogs and cats.

No cruelty is more widespread than this overbreeding. No cruelty is so insidious. No cruelty is so hard to fight.

Overbreeding has created a surplus of nearly 50 million dogs and cats. These animals are unwanted and homeless. Some of them—the 'lucky ones'—will get a quick, merciful death at humane society shelters. Most, however, haven't even the hope of being reached and protected from suffering in the 3,000 or more communities without humane societies. Instead, they roam the country—starving, thirsting, suffering.

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A holistic approach to the problem of overbreeding should involve measures to prevent the breeding of animals to begin with. This can be achieved through education and outreach programs that inform pet owners about the consequences of overbreeding, such as overcrowding, disease, and suffering. Veterinary professionals, animal welfare organizations, and the media can play a significant role in raising awareness and encouraging responsible pet ownership. By working together, we can create a culture of care that prioritizes the well-being of animals over personal desires, leading to a more sustainable and compassionate approach to animal care.
Conference Call!

You should have received your brochure on the 970 National Leadership Conference. Make your reservation now. Those received first will be booked into the Avalon Inn. When the Inn is full, other persons seeking reservations will be accommodated at the nearby Holiday Inn.

Plan to be with us on October 8-11. We need your help in solving major animal welfare problems.

Yes! I want to help.

Send me more information.

I enclose my gift of $.

NAME
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Pets. It is clear the veterinary profession is aware of the surplus breeding problem.

Much more needs to be done. Even with a continuing HSUS national program, the scattered sporadic efforts at the local level are not enough to cope with the problem. It will take a total, nationwide effort if we are to prevent countless millions of puppies and kittens being born every year to be killed, abandoned, or otherwise cruelly mistreated.

Education is the first need. We know the facts and we publish them. To be really effective, however, distribution must grow. This means educational publicity in local newspapers, school papers, club bulletins, on radio and television, and before every possible civic organization through well informed speakers.

Persuasion of pet owners is also important. If we can get their cooperation, a community spaying program can easily be organized. It may, indeed, be possible to set up a low cost spaying and neutering clinic.

Then, too, there is need to cooperate with local veterinarians, city and county pounds, cat and kennel clubs, wildlife conservation groups, Boy and Girl Scout organizations and the like.

And, of course, legislation is needed. We must have laws to discourage breeding and to encourage spaying. We must have laws to protect animals by putting penalties on their owners instead of automatic death sentences on the animals. Your Society has detailed information on how you can take part in this great effort. Send for it today. There is no better way in which you can help stop massive animal suffering.