



NIH, Texas To Cosponsor Animal Welfare Program On Rodent Research

The National Institutes of Health's Office for Protection From Research Risks, Division of Animal Welfare, and the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston are cosponsoring an animal welfare workshop program on "Dilemmas in Rodent Research: Scientific, Regulatory, Ethical Perspectives."

The one-and-a-half days workshop, set for December 5-6 at the Wyndham Warwick in Houston, is designed for those responsible for the management of laboratory animal programs, including institutional animal care and use committee members, administrators, laboratory animal veterinarians, and investigators and their staffs.

The program theme will be the scientific and ethical perspectives of rodent use. The program will focus on rodents in research with emphasis on transgenics and the Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration, and Department of Agriculture regulations.

There also will be a moderated protocol review workshop with participants acting as members of an institutional animal care and use committee.

For information concerning program content and logistics, contact Paula Knudson, 713-792-5048; FAX, 713-794-4264; for information concerning future programs contact Roberta Sonneborn, 301-496-7163; FAX, 301-402-0527.

A Newspaper Speaks Out About Animal Activists

(In Maryland an animal rights organization, *In Defense of Animals*, has been picketing since spring the Chevy Chase home of Dr. Sharon Juliano, protesting her use of cats in her neurological research project at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda. The Potomac Almanac newspaper spoke out against the activists, publishing the following editorial and editorial cartoon, which are reprinted with the permission of the newspaper and the cartoonist.)

Cruel Vigil

Since April, animal rights protesters have been camping in front of a local researcher's home, visibly opposing her use of kittens for neurological research. Week after week, the protesters hold night vigils at Dr. Sharon Juliano's house, hoisting signs with pictures of cats and others that say Have a Heart, Sharon.

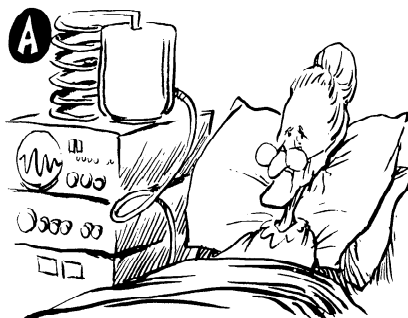
Animal rights activists accuse Juliano of being cruel and unkind to kittens because she removes their toes to study the brain's reaction. We see a distinct irony in activists calling for kindness and fair treatment for animals, but denying it to other human beings. In their concern for animals, they would tolerate the long-term suffering of people, who eagerly await the results of Juliano's research.

The protesters intend their photographs of cuddly kittens and big-eyed monkeys to stir emotion. Far more emotional pictures come to mind of humans who are neurologically impaired. Picture someone who shakes so much from Parkinsons disease that he cannot feed himself, or imagine a victim of paralysis struggling to get out of bed. Science does not have cures for them yet. But researchers are trying—and they say they won't get very far if they can't use animals.

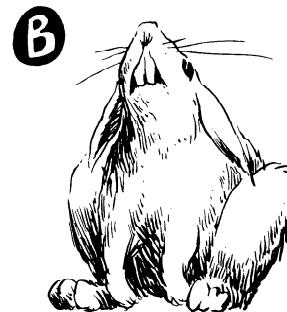
Our fundamental disagreement with the animal rights activists is this—they believe an animal's life is worth as much as a human's. We do not. They argue that animals should not be used for testing under any circumstances. Yet without animal research, the medical community never would have found a vaccine for

POP QUIZ

THE GREAT ETHICAL QUESTIONS OF OUR DAY-- WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING HAS MORE RIGHT TO LIVE?



A GRANDMA. HER DIALYSIS TREATMENTS ARE GONNA MAKE IT PRETTY TOUGH TO GET THAT ATV YOU'VE HAD YOUR EYE ON. AND, HEY, SHE'S GOT A RIGHT TO DIE, ANYWAY.



B A LAB RABBIT. SOME FASCIST SCIENTIST WANTS TO KILL HIM JUST TO DEVELOP A VACCINE TO SAVE A FEW MILLION GREEDY, POLLUTING HUMANS. WHO'S CUTER, REALLY-- GRANDMA, OR THIS LITTLE GUY? BESIDES, YOU WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD WEARING HIS FUR, NOW, WOULD YOU? CAN'T SAY THAT ABOUT GRANDMA'S JEWELRY.

NEXT WEEK: SHOULD A PARAMEDIUM VOTE?

CURTIS
ALMANAC 7-10-91

