

**Tracking Animal Cruelty is Public Safety :**

India's National Crime Research Bureau is not maintaining data and records of crime against animals. In India unfortunately gross negligence and indifference towards research on mental status and behavior of society is prevailing. Crime preventive exercise is as vitally important as suing criminals. It is high time for law makers and Judiciary to ponder that by ignoring and disregarding the necessary to develop the culture of being compassionate towards all living being we are fostering criminal society. Practice of undermining the crime against animals or at the most inflicting meager penalty under PCA 1960 ACT like Rs 50/- or so is not only ineffective but an encouragement to an accused to commit larger crime against human. For seeding the value of coexistence and sharing the planet with exploiting any being need multiple actions.

Crime against animals need to see in larger spectrum. In fact more attention should be focused on such abusers and need to provide them necessary counseling and physiological treatment and monitor his/ her steps which shall prevent the crime at advance stage. Awareness drives for compassionate towards all living being must be largely carried out. Subject of compassionate and loving, respecting all living creature must be included in curriculum. Like NCC (National Cadet Corps) outdoor practical training to serve the plants and animals must be given from early schooling level. Schools tours to Gaushala, cattle shelter must be arranged and encouraged to enshrine the seed of compassionate. NCB (National Crime Research Bureau) must maintain data of crime against animal and release regularly for the devising proper mechanism. This will substantially reduce the burden on police and judiciary. Especially when we have 3.25 Crore cases pending with various Courts including Supreme Court. (Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) statistics).

**We must understand now nexus between Animal Abuse and Human Abuse:**

Partners in Crime Violent acts against animals have long been recognized as indicators of a dangerous psychopathy that does not confine itself to animals. Few case studies and observation based on profound investigation and observations are in briefly shared hereunder.

Violent acts toward animals have long been recognized as indicators of a dangerous psychopathy that does not confine itself to animal abuse. "Anyone who has accustomed himself to regard the life of any living creature as worthless is in danger of arriving also at the idea of worthless human lives," wrote humanitarian Dr. Albert Schweitzer. And according to Robert K. Ressler, who developed profiles of serial killers for the FBI, "Murderers ... very often start out by killing and torturing animals as kids."

**Five times more likely :** A study conducted by Northeastern University and the Massachusetts SPCA found that people who abuse animals are five times more likely

to commit violent crimes against humans. The majority of inmates scheduled to be executed for murder at California's San Quentin penitentiary "practiced" their crimes on animals, according to the warden.

- "The link between animal abuse and more violent conduct has clearly been established. The dismembered remains of dogs and cats today could well be that of children tomorrow." —Humboldt County District Attorney Terry Farmer.
- Acts of cruelty toward animals— they can be the first sign of a violent pathology that includes human victims.
- A 13-year-old Augusta, Ga., boy—a month after allegedly stabbing a classmate in the back and threatening to kill a bus driver—reportedly stomped a kitten to death. Neighbors claimed to see the child twisting his foot into the kitten as if he were "grinding ... a cigarette out.
- " Three New Jersey teens reportedly stoned a goose to death and—using a rake and shovel—fatally bludgeoned eight large exotic birds at a local zoo. The suspects were also suspected of arson, painting swastikas on an area business, and shattering a church's windows.
- A 16-year-old Nova Scotia boy tortured and hanged a stray cat less than two years after orchestrating the derailment of a passenger train, injuring 23 people. At age 13, Gary Long Jr. of South Dakota allegedly encouraged a dog to fatally maul a kitten for his own amusement. Within two years, he shattered a beer bottle on an 8-yearold child's head and raped and killed a 31-year-old woman.
- As a child, serial killer and rapist Ted Bundy—ultimately convicted of two killings but suspected of murdering more than 40 women—witnessed his father's violence toward animals, and he himself subsequently tortured animals.
- Earl Kenneth Shriner, who raped and stabbed a 7-yearold boy, was known in his neighborhood for hanging cats and torturing dogs.
- Lee Boyd Malvo, convicted in connection with the 2002 Washington, D.C., sniper attacks, reportedly hunted and killed stray cats for nearly five years, beginning at age 8 or 9.
- Battered women's reports of their partners' cruelty to animals Nearly three-quarters (71%) of women studied reported that their male partners have killed or have threatened to kill or injure their pets, according to a 1998 study by Frank Ascione, Ph.D.

**The world recognized strong link between Animal Cruelty and human Violence.**

“The prosecution of cases involving juvenile animal abuse offenders can be challenging and emotionally daunting for prosecutors. Many youth who commit acts of animal cruelty were exposed to violence early in their childhood. This early exposure to a high stress abusive environment can cause children to fail to develop empathy and to have a desire to harm other living beings. Studies have shown that 30% of children exposed to domestic violence and abuse have subsequently committed acts of animal cruelty against their pets. In addition, without intervention, these children may be unable to achieve a bright future. Studies show that youth who engaged in acts of animal cruelty between the ages of six and twelve are twice as likely to be charged in a violent juvenile delinquency offense against a human. Often court personnel are unfamiliar with how to best provide rehabilitative services for convicted youth. It is important that the prosecutor be prepared to guide the court to appropriate treatment programs that will successfully rehabilitate juvenile offenders.” — **Jennifer Rallo (Assistant State’s Attorney, Baltimore City State’s Attorney’s Office).**

“Domestic violence is present in a troubling number of family law cases and is often unreported. Family Court judges play a critical role in identifying spousal abuse and factoring it in decisions about divorce and custody. Incidents of animal abuse can frequently indicate that abuse is occurring against family members. In such cases, an abuser can use or threaten animal abuse as a way of controlling family members. This can be especially victimizing toward family members with strong attachments to that animal. Severe traumatic consequences can result when children are exposed to such violence toward animals. It is essential that Family Court judges recognize the link between animal abuse and domestic violence. In communicating with litigants and in issuing court orders, especially those that concern custody of children and protection from abuse, judges can address the threats of harm and underlying issues of power and control.” — **Hon. Steven A. Aycock (Ret.), Judge-in-Residence, and Nancy E. Hart, Attorney with the Family Violence and Domestic Relations Program of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.**

**Source**

[:https://aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/Understanding%20the%20Link%20between%20Violence%20to%20Animals%20and%20People.pdf](https://aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/Understanding%20the%20Link%20between%20Violence%20to%20Animals%20and%20People.pdf)

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