



Animal Cruelty: Pathway to Violence Against People

By Linda Merz-Perez, Kathleen M. Heide

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Practitioners in the animal welfare field, law enforcement circles, and social services arena have often maintained that childhood cruelty to animals is a forerunner to violence against people. Does this behavior serve as a red flag with respect to extremely violent offenders, such as serial killers? Is it part of the cycle of violence associated with domestic abuse? Perez and Heide provide the first scientific examination of this relationship and examine issues of cruelty across different types of animals (pet, wild, stray, farm). The authors evaluate both qualitative and quantitative data to identify correlations between childhood cruelty and adult violent behavior, utilizing interviews and criminal records of violent and nonviolent inmates in a maximum security prison. Their findings will be of importance to a diverse audience, including researchers and practitioners in the field of juvenile justice, violence and domestic abuse, social welfare, animal welfare and animal rights and developmental psychologists and counselors, as well as law enforcement officers, district attorneys and judges, county and municipal officials, animal control officers, veterinarians, and school administrators, especially those concerned with intervention and prevention strategies.

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Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

Our understanding of the phenomenon of animal abuse has been advanced significantly by Merz-Perez and Heide's efforts. Their work should attract the attention of students and professionals who work in the fields of psychology, psychiatry, law, criminology, social work, child welfare, and family violence. The interested layperson will also benefit from this book since it presents a thoughtful and concise overview on animal abuse and the characteristics of those who perpetrate it. The book will no doubt become a classic reference in this field. . . . Healing often begins with a journey of understanding—Merz-Perez and Heide have hastened our travel along this path. (Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D., Utah State University)

One of the greatest challenges to those of us concerned about crime and violence is that there are so many potential forces at work that can lead an individual down many different paths. . . . This collaboration has brought an original orientation to these issues that has combined careful attention to quantitative method and strongly held concern for the victims of violence, regardless of their species. . . . Ultimately this work, like other important research that has proceeded it, is aimed at better understanding one of the greatest questions we face—the nature and origins of evil. . . . Rarely do such problems arise without warning, but the warnings may be unheeded if the victim is 'only an animal.' Merz-Perez and Heide have given us new and stronger reasons to take animal abuse very seriously. (Randall Lockwood, Ph.D., The Humane Society of the United States)

About the Author

Linda Merz-Perez is the former Executive Director of the Humane Society of Shelby County, Alabama. She currently serves on the boards of Hand-In-Paw and the SPCA, West Pasco, has served as court-appointed Animal Cruelty Investigative Officer, and has been involved in the field of animal welfare for the last 14 years. Kathleen M. Heide is professor of Criminology at the University of South Florida, Tampa, and a licensed mental health counselor. She is an internationally recognized consultant on adolescent homicide, family violence, personality assessment, and juvenile justice, and the author of *Why Kids Kill Parents: Child Abuse and Adolescent Homicide* (1992) and *Young Killers: The Challenge of Juvenile Homicide* (1999).

Users Review

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Kayla France:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or all their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book may be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled *Animal Cruelty: Pathway to Violence Against People* can be very good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Clyde Traynor:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent their free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a new book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the entire day to reading a guide. The book *Animal Cruelty: Pathway to Violence Against People* it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy often the e-book. You can more quickly to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book possesses high quality.

Jacqueline Carter:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the extra time or they will get large amount of stress from both everyday life and work. So , once we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not really a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer will unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the actual book you have read will be *Animal Cruelty: Pathway to Violence Against People*.

Kyle Reese:

Within this era which is the greater individual or who has ability to do something more are more special than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you must do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of many books in the top collection in your reading list is usually *Animal Cruelty: Pathway to Violence Against People*. This book which is qualified as *The Hungry Hillsides* can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking right up and review this book you can get many advantages.

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