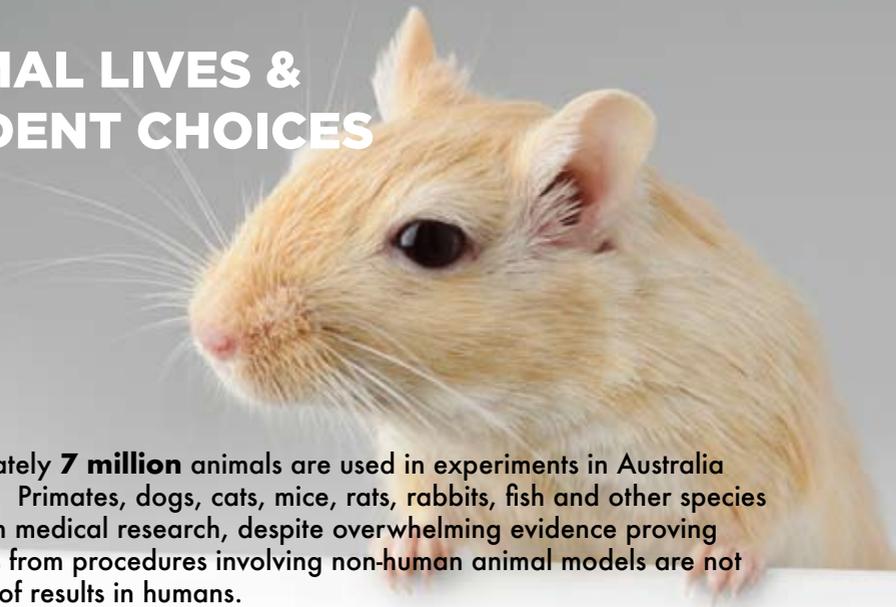


ANIMAL LIVES & STUDENT CHOICES



Approximately **7 million** animals are used in experiments in Australia each year. Primates, dogs, cats, mice, rats, rabbits, fish and other species are used in medical research, despite overwhelming evidence proving that results from procedures involving non-human animal models are not predictive of results in humans.

ANIMAL LIVES

Australian universities are the major users of animals in experiments. For example, **Monash University**, which has its own primate breeding facility, uses marmosets in brain exposure experiments where the animals are held immobilised in stereotaxic frames, craniotomies are performed and **brain recordings taken**.



Pregnant sheep have had their fetuses delivered prematurely via caesarean sections and the hearts of the fetuses removed whilst they are still alive to ensure the heart continues to beat for further analysis. At the **University of Melbourne**, kittens have undergone procedures to artificially induce chronic deafness and at **RMIT**, rats are used in

over-eating experiments and fed high fat diets.

These types of inhumane experiments continue despite the fact that it is increasingly recognized that animals are poor models for human disease.

STUDENT CHOICES

Students, at some point in their studies, may encounter courses that require the use of live animals in experimentation. Concerned students wanting to avoid the use of animals should contact their course advisor and ask for alternative projects that provide more up-to-date non-animal teaching methods.

Conscientious Objection – www.conscientiousobjection.info

This useful website compiled by The University of Melbourne Animal Protection Society is a comprehensive resource for students concerned about the harmful use of animals throughout their education. It provides information, support and practical steps on how to conscientiously object and thereby avoid harmful animal use in studies.

The following websites also provide information about humane teaching methods for students and teachers/tutors.

HUMANE LEARNING – www.HumaneLearning.info

Contains citations and abstracts for over 400 studies of harmful animal use and humane alternatives in various educational disciplines

InterNICHE – www.InterNICHE.org

Provides citations and abstracts for over 750 studies primarily focused on animal use in education and alternatives. Searchable by discipline, author and keyword.

THE SCIENCE BANK — <http://thesciencebank.org>

Hosts a large database of alternatives and teaching tools for today's science classes.



Conscientious objection allows students to choose study methods that do not involve the harming or killing of animals. Student choice allows all students, regardless of ethical or religious beliefs, access to a high-quality education by offering alternatives to animal experiments with which they disagree.

Thousands of animals **are killed** for dissection and their tissues used in various science classes. These animals die for the demonstration of known facts and to provide students with 'hands on' experience of living systems. This indefensible exploitation of animals is both wasteful and ethically unacceptable.

As a student you can:

- refuse to perpetuate invalid and outdated procedures that hinder scientific and medical progress;
- reject a system that profits from and requires animal abuse;
- demand that the government and Australian universities invest in research that does not use animals;
- raise awareness and share information about unethical practices; and
- be part of the move toward a compassionate future.

"By and large students are taught that it is ethically acceptable to perpetrate, in the name of science, what from the point of view of the animals would certainly qualify as torture.

By the time [the students] arrive in the labs they have been programmed to accept the suffering around them."

- Dr Jane Goodall

