



DONOR

IMPACT

REPORT


2019

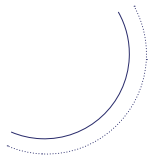
Imagine a world in which
animals are treated with
respect and compassion.

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Voiceless acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we work, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.





DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF VOICELESS,

It is wholly thanks to your commitment to our vision that Voiceless continues to educate and inspire the next generation to create a kinder world for animals. As we approach the end of our 15th year, I am delighted to share this report with you as well as our highlights and achievements from throughout 2019.

Despite our many victories over the years, there is still work to do. This year was marred by the continuation of Australia's live export industry, the expansion of the kangaroo industry,

cruelty exposés in both the greyhound and horse racing industries as well as the censoring of animal advocates through the rapid expansion of ag-gag laws across the country. A fundamental shift in the human-animal relationship needs to happen now, and we believe that education is the key.

With my wonderful and brilliant father, Brian Sherman, I have been leading Voiceless since the beginning. We have always taken pride in the organisation's strategic, creative and forward-

thinking approach and this year, like all the others, you have allowed us to continue progressing with leaps and bounds.

With a renewed focus on education, we have added a highly experienced educator to our team, and our Animal Protection Education (APE) program is continuing to produce the highest quality resources for high school students. We say this with great confidence, as the feedback from teachers has been overwhelming in its praise. For years, there has been nothing to

rival the school programs developed by animal agricultural industries. But now - thanks to our wonderful and supportive community of donors - teachers and students are starting to hear other perspectives and are learning to think critically about animal protection issues in classrooms across the country.

At the tertiary level, our Animal Law Education (ALE) program supports the introduction and development of animal law subjects across Australian universities in

order to educate young, budding lawyers about the crucial role that animal law plays in this social justice movement. Thanks to the superb legal minds at Voiceless, we are helping to build the animal law movement in Australia, networking with top lawyers across the globe and collaborating and sharing information to advance the legal protection of animals.

Our young people grow up to be our future judges, politicians, CEOs, artists, writers, filmmakers and change-makers so let's

educate and inspire them to make positive changes for animals. We have been humbled by your support in 2019 and over the last 15 years, and we warmly welcome you to join us for another 15 or more!



Ondine Sherman

Co-Founder and
Managing Director



“

A FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT
IN THE HUMAN-ANIMAL
RELATIONSHIP NEEDS TO
HAPPEN NOW, AND WE BELIEVE
THAT EDUCATION IS THE KEY.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OVER 15 YEARS



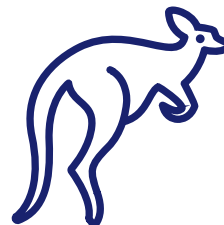
HIRED AUSTRALIA'S
FIRST ANIMAL LAWYER
TO HELP CREATE BETTER
LAWS AND POLICIES
FOR ANIMALS



PRODUCED **78**
INDIVIDUAL REPORTS,
BRIEFINGS AND
SUBMISSIONS TO
INCREASE PROTECTION
FOR ANIMALS



INVESTED
\$2 MILLION DOLLARS
INTO SEED GRANTS AND
PRIZES FOR THE ANIMAL
PROTECTION MOVEMENT



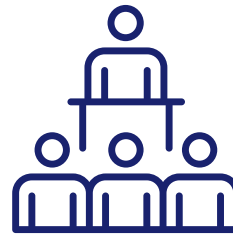
SUPPORTED OVER
150 PROJECTS THAT
CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS
THE ALLEVIATION OF
ANIMAL SUFFERING



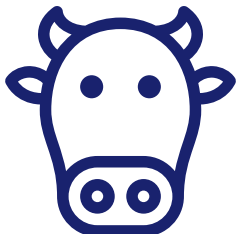
PROGRAMMED AND RAN THE VOICELESS ANIMAL
LAW LECTURE SERIES FOR **10 YEARS** WITH
APPROXIMATELY **10,000+** ATTENDEES



SINCE 2017, WE HAVE
CREATED **133**
EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES FOR HIGH
SCHOOL STUDENTS ...



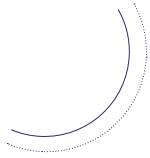
...AND HAVE PRESENTED
ON ANIMAL PROTECTION
ISSUES TO OVER
2,300 HIGH
SCHOOL STUDENTS



SUPPORTED **8**
ANIMAL SANCTUARIES
THROUGH THE 2019
VOICELESS ANIMAL
PROTECTION HEROES



HELPED GROW THE
NUMBER OF AUSTRALIAN
UNIVERSITIES TEACHING
ANIMAL LAW FROM
0 TO 16



EDUCATING OUR YOUTH

Former high school teacher and current Education Program Coordinator here at Voiceless, Hanna reflects on the importance of Animal Protection Education.

In my interactions with high school students this year, I have been delighted to see such enthusiasm from enquiring minds whose faces light up with both curiosity and concern when asked to think critically about animal protection. We know that young people are passionate and concerned about the climate and this concern naturally extends to animals and our relationships with them.

Our Animal Protection Education program (APE) fills a major gap in our education system, created

by the fact that learning about animal welfare and protection issues is not currently mandated under the national curriculum. This means that Australian students can complete their schooling without ever discussing these issues in the classroom.

We know that if we want significant social change for animals, we need to educate our young people.

For this reason, Animal Protection Education is crucial.

Our feedback from educators has been

overwhelmingly positive, and it is becoming increasingly apparent that the materials we are creating are not only informative, trusted, and well put together but are also in demand. We empower an often time-poor profession by providing the tools and information they need to deliver engaging lessons, which have real value. Through open and honest dialogue with educators, I have discovered that most are receptive to teaching their students about animal protection issues and

they also consider it an imperative part of a young person's education.

Our work is only just beginning, and we have a long way to go, but our dedicated and passionate team are committed to helping teachers and students better understand how they can make a difference to the lives of animals.

We hope you'll share our commitment to this goal.

Understanding Terminology

Animal Welfare

Definition
Animal welfare refers to how a non-human animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives. A person or organisation adopting an 'animal welfare' approach to animal protection, is referred to as an 'animal welfare'.

Animal welfarists are concerned with how well animals are coping with their environment, i.e. whether they are experiencing positive or negative wellbeing. For welfarists, it is morally acceptable for humans to use animals for human purposes, so long as that use does not cause unjustifiable or unreasonable pain and suffering.

Example
A welfarist would not be opposed to horse racing on the grounds that a horse should not have to race for human entertainment. They believe that animals have a right to live their life naturally without human interference, and they should not be forced to perform for humans. Therefore, a rights advocate would oppose horse racing even if the horses did not experience pain and suffering.

Animal Rights

Definition
Animal rights refers to the moral and legal entitlements/rights of non-human animals. A person or organisation adopting an 'animal rights' approach to animal protection, is referred to as an 'animal rights advocate'.

Many rights advocates believe that animals are entitled to enjoy fundamental rights such as the right to life, health and liberty. An animal rights advocate would challenge the property status of non-human animals, and disagree with the idea that it is morally acceptable for humans to use animals for human purposes.

Example
A rights advocate would be opposed to horse racing on the grounds that a horse should not have to race for human entertainment. They believe that animals have a right to live their life naturally without human interference, and they should not be forced to perform for humans. Therefore, a rights advocate would oppose horse racing even if the horses did not experience pain and suffering.

Focus Area 4 - Animal Protection

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the animal protection network

DOLPHINS IN CAPTIVITY

This fact sheet is designed to provide teachers with the information they need to teach students about the welfare issues associated with dolphin captivity across the world.

FACT SHEET: DOLPHINS IN CAPTIVITY

The watery world of fishes

Over 95% of the Earth's surface is covered by water. It's no surprise that we share the planet with a staggering number of fishy inhabitants. In fact, there are an estimated 35,000 species of fish in the world. That's a lot of fishy friends! But how many of them do we know about?

WHAT'S A FISHBOWL?
Fishbowl is an acronym for fishbowl. There are five major groups of fishbowl (including bonyfish, cartilaginous, amphibious, and fishbowl).

What do we mean when we talk about fishes?
When we use the term 'fish', we lump together a huge range of diverse aquatic vertebrates from thousands of species. Salmon, goldfish, eels, manta rays, and sharks are all different types of fish.

Professor Jonathan Iles says this kind of grouping is misleading. "Humans are very different from the vast majority of other animals," he says. "Humans are very different from the vast majority of other animals." "Humans are very different from the vast majority of other animals." "Humans are very different from the vast majority of other animals."

FACT SHEET: LEGAL PERSONHOOD

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ANIMALS: PROPERTY OR PERSONS?

This fact sheet provides teachers with the information they need to teach students about the concept of legal personhood.

FACT SHEET: LEGAL PERSONHOOD

Debating the issues

Can we protect animals properly if they are property?

PERSON A
If animals are property, we can't protect them properly.

PERSON B
That's not true. If we own them, we can do what we want to do with them. We can keep them in cages, we can use them for food, we can use them for research, we can use them for entertainment, we can use them for anything we want to do with them.

PERSON C
But, many people own animals and they care more about their own human desires than the animal's needs. For example, I could own a thousand horses and care more that they live as many years as possible and make me lots of money, than I care about giving them a happy life.

PERSON D
What about pets, like dogs and cats? Many people love their pets as members of the family and treat them better than they treat other animals.

PERSON E
But, how they are treated depends entirely on who they live with. Some people treat their dogs and cats as members of the family and treat them better than they treat other animals. Some people treat their dogs and cats as members of the family and treat them better than they treat other animals.

THE WATERY WORLD OF FISHES

This booklet provides teachers with the information they need to teach students about the sentience and capabilities of fishes.

FACT SHEET: FACTS AND FISHES

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THE WATERY WORLD OF FISHES

This booklet provides teachers with the information they need to teach students about the sentience and capabilities of fishes.

FACT SHEET: FACTS AND FISHES

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HOW ARE CHICKENS RAISED FOR MEAT IN AUSTRALIA?

Chicken Welfare in the Meat Industry.

This fact sheet is designed to provide teachers with the information they need to teach students about how chickens are raised for meat in Australia, and the animal welfare issues associated with different systems of production.

FACT SHEET: BROILER CHICKENS

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NAVIGATING NAPLAN

These resources are designed to help Australian English teachers prepare students for the annual NAPLAN writing assessments.

TEACHING AND LEARNING PROGRAM: NAVIGATING NAPLAN

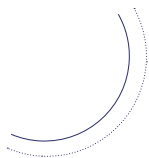
“OUR ANIMAL PROTECTION EDUCATION PROGRAM (APE) FILLS A MAJOR GAP IN OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM, CREATED BY THE FACT THAT LEARNING ABOUT ANIMAL WELFARE AND PROTECTION ISSUES IS NOT CURRENTLY MANDATED UNDER THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM.



“

AFTER READING ANIMAL LIBERATION ABOUT 13 YEARS AGO, I REALISED THAT IT WAS UNETHICAL AND ILLOGICAL TO ALWAYS PUT HUMAN NEEDS AHEAD OF THOSE OF ANIMALS, AND IT INSPIRED ME TO DO WHAT I COULD TO CHANGE THIS.

Professor Nick James, Executive Dean of the Bond University Faculty of Law, Executive Director of the Bond University Centre for Professional Legal Education and Voiceless Education Advisory Council member



ADVANCING ANIMAL LAW

Voiceless and Bond University have formed a powerful partnership to support the development and delivery of animal law education at universities across the country.

The Bond/Voiceless partnership has its roots in an idea sprouted years ago at the very first Animal Law Education Workshop. The goal was to create a completely free online model animal law curriculum, to enable law educators to easily insert animal law into their law degree programs.

Thanks to the backing of our gift-giving community, 7 years later we now have a fully-fledged Animal Law Education program, providing animal law

teachers with the world class resources they need to expand the reach of animal law across Australia. Its success has allowed it to expand, with three postgraduate animal law researchers joining us on our journey this year to research effective techniques to improve the teaching of animal law.

With the support of animal law teachers across the country, we are also now running the only professional development forum for animal law

teachers in Australia, creating a network of educators who are building and developing one of the most dynamic and important legal disciplines of our time.

Professor Nick James of Bond University is "delighted that the work we are doing is raising the level of awareness of animal law and animal ethics amongst Australian law teachers and law students, and through them their family members, friends and

the wider community.

I think we are doing genuine good with this initiative."

We believe that all Australian law students should have the opportunity to learn about the crucial role the law plays in both animal protection and exploitation.



OUR IMPACT IN 2019

NUMBER OF ANIMAL
PROTECTION EDUCATION
RESOURCES CREATED

100+

NUMBER OF TIMES
OUR RESOURCES WERE
DOWNLOADED BY EDUCATORS

1000+

NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS ADDRESSED

APPROX.

330

NUMBER OF ANIMAL PROTECTION
GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA SOLELY
DEDICATED TO HIGH SCHOOL
AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

1 (US!)

12

ANIMAL LAW
PRESENTATIONS
DELIVERED TO OVER

500

PEOPLE

6

ANIMAL
LAW BLOGS,
READ OVER

2000

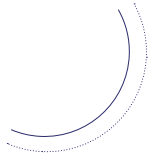
TIMES

PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE WHO FOUND
OUR ANIMAL LAW EDUCATION
WORKSHOP **'HIGHLY USEFUL'**

100%

NUMBER OF ANIMAL PROTECTION
GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA DEVOTED TO
SUPPORTING AND DEVELOPING THE
ANIMAL LAW EDUCATION COMMUNITY

1 (US!)



TILT'S STORY

Melbourne Chicken Rescue were one of eight recipients of the inaugural Voiceless Animal Protection Heroes - a gift in memory of our beloved colleague and dear friend, Elaine Morris.

Tilt was found at 5 weeks old lying on a shed floor with his neck twisted and his face buried in the piled-up excrement. Two days later he arrived at the doorstep of Melbourne Chicken Rescue. Tilt could stand on his own two feet, but he couldn't walk, and he couldn't keep his head up.

A year and a half on and Tilt has found sanctuary with Melbourne Chicken Rescue in the safe hands of Liz and Nicole who have dedicated all that they have to their brood of rescue chickens, many of whom have special needs.

Tilt will spend the rest of his days riding around in his pet pram or at the beach, where he eats from the washed-up seaweed. At home, he'll watch his cartoons, which encourage him to keep his head up and then, at bedtime, he'll be showered and blow dried as his wry neck means he's unable to keep himself clean.

For Liz and Nicole, Tilt is an important family member and the light of their life. He is like a son and a best friend. But on the factory farm floor, Tilt was considered wastage.

Our Animal Protection Heroes are the dedicated and selfless individuals who work tirelessly to rescue and rehabilitate injured and abused animals. Whether they're restoring the wellbeing of sheeps, pigs or chickens who have fallen victim to industrialised farming or nursing an orphaned joey who would otherwise be unable to survive alone, they often operate with zero financial support. This means using their own personal finances and even sacrificing their own homes for the sake and love of the animals.

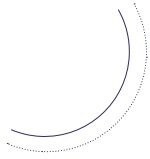
They are the unsung heroes of Australia's animal protection community - the animal carers.

We hope to continue the Voiceless Animal Protection Heroes gifts in 2020 so we can support animals like Tilt and promote the sanctuaries that they call home.

“

TILT HAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL,
SOULFUL EYES THAT LOOK DEEP
INTO YOUR HEART. HE HAS AN
EFFECT ON ALMOST EVERY
PERSON HE HAS EVER MET.





INSPIRING INTERNS

During her internship, Ashleigh developed a system of evaluation that assessed the impact of our Animal Protection Education (APE) program and found hundreds of teachers across Australia had been using our resources.

I've always loved animals no matter their species.

Companion animals were a constant in my life growing up, and as a teenager my love for them evolved into a sense of responsibility. I turned my family home into an animal haven where I fostered heart-broken, sick and abandoned animals. I watched as they came out of their shells and their health improved. Their broken hearts had mended. They were happy.

The real epiphany came while watching a documentary. As I sat crying in my room, faced with the reality of systematic cruelty inflicted on animals by humans, I knew that I had found my mission in life. I was dedicated to this cause and would be a voice for those who so many of us forget about or ignore.

My animal rights journey had begun.

I went on to join the Animal Justice Party as the volunteer events coordinator and then

joined the Animal Rights Society at Macquarie University where I became President in my second year.

Through these roles I came to realise that education is such a vital aspect of this social justice movement. Without it, we cannot make informed decisions, we remain in the dark and things don't change. This is what drew me to Voiceless, as the only animal protection organisation devoted to educating high school

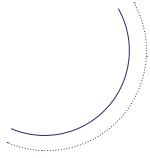
students on these crucial issues. I have been following Voiceless for years and when the opportunity arose for an internship as part of my university degree, I immediately reached out to Voiceless with my fingers crossed.

I still remember the first day that I started my internship. It felt so surreal. A dream turned into reality. I worked hard in the hope that I could continue my work with Voiceless after my internship ended. Dream

turned to reality again when I was invited on as an official team member and I am eternally grateful. I am excited for the future and am looking forward to being part of Voiceless's education program, which is working towards positively changing the lives of animals everywhere. I know that my place is here, and it feels just so right.

Voiceless Animal Law and Education Manager, Dr. Meg Good, discusses our APE materials with Ashleigh Rumpler, our newest member of staff.





GIVING TO THE ANIMALS

When Rosie Williams speaks about the human-animal relationship, her empathy is palpable.

We sat down for a Q&A to find out what inspires her to donate to Voiceless.

What was the catalyst for your interest in animal protection?

I don't think there was a single catalyst. More like a cascade over the course of my life. Very simply, I believe we should look after each other. And when I say 'other', I mean other creatures and not just creatures that look like us. We have a duty of care to hopefully prevent suffering, but where that is not possible, then at least to alleviate suffering whenever we can. I think that kind of caring is part of what it is to be human. So, of course we must

protect our fellow animals - it is what we would want for ourselves.

What inspired your gift to Voiceless?

Years ago, my son Oscar asked me if I knew what happened to many of the male calves of dairy cows. I didn't know. I hadn't thought about it. Two things are salient about that anecdote. Firstly, there is the abhorrent practice of separating and killing the calves, and then there was my ignorance of it. And I was ignorant purely because I hadn't bothered to think about the significance of a

lactating cow. I don't want to ever be as thoughtless in terms of animal suffering again. And Voiceless is the vehicle through which I achieve that aim; hence our gift.

How would you describe Voiceless to others?

Voiceless not only allows for the possibility of a kinder more compassionate world for animals, it gives us the tools to effect that change. Voiceless utilises science-based research and education as a means of achieving normative change in our attitudes and treatment

of animals. They are also involved in the growth and progress of Animal Law in our universities as well as the acceptance and practice of Animal Law and legislation in the broader community. Voiceless is active in our high schools where they provide educators with animal protection content that encourages students to think critically about our relationship with animals and what that might entail. We often assume animals to be voiceless; I don't think that is true. The problem is we just don't listen.


What do you see as the most important changes needed to ensure our vision of a respectful and compassionate world for animals?

I think the most important change that we could make is a change in our conception of what an animal is. If we could understand and accept that other animals are our fellow creatures, then perhaps we would be more inclined to treat animals with the respect and compassion we wish for ourselves.

“

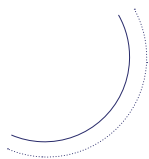
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ANIMALS ARE FELLOW CREATURES,
THEN PERHAPS WE WOULD BE MORE
INCLINED TO TREAT ANIMALS WITH
THE RESPECT AND COMPASSION
WE WISH FOR OURSELVES.





Every year for the past 15, we've worked towards creating a kinder world for animals. The generosity of our donors allows us to continue to educate our youth, to develop the field of animal law and to reward and promote those animal protection heroes on the ground. Our vital work continues because of you.

Voiceless would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the following people:



DONOR ROLL

Voices Community

Our Voices Community is made up of Gold and Silver Donors whose generosity we are truly indebted to.

Debbie Dadon

Deidre Wicks

Gordon Elkington

Jeffrey Kamins

Johanna Featherstone
and Geoff Ainsworth AM

Julian Tertini

Naomi and Ken Henry AC

Rosie Williams

The Sherman Family Trust

Tomoko Nakayama

Monthly Donors

Voiceless would also like to extend our warmest thanks to the following, who have shown dedication to our work through their monthly donations.

Charles and Annarosa
Berman

Chloe Dempsey

Eamon Harty

Feargal Caley

Gillian Appleton

Jacqui Bullivant

Julie Hoar

Kate Sanderson

Linda Sperring

Lola Williams

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Ruth Siems

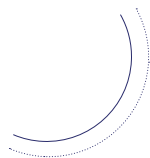
Tamara Albers

Tershia Bunsee

Tess Carafella

Vanessa Jeffords

We would also like to recognise and thank the many generous donors and bequestors who have requested to remain anonymous.



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2020 AND BEYOND

Voiceless is optimistic about the future and we continue to be dedicated to our vision. With your support, the years ahead will see us grow and develop our most successful programs and projects.

We have multiple APEs (Animal Protection Education) lined up for 2020. Subjects include the sentience of fishes, live export and an overview of the Voiceless Animal Cruelty

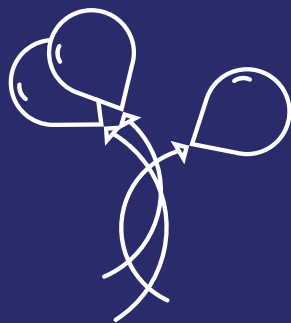
Index (VACI), which ranks the animal welfare performance of a selection of 50 of the greatest livestock producing countries in the world. Our animal law work will continue to thrive, with our latest ALE (Animal Law Education) focusing on Animal Law and Policy Reform plus many new collaborations and legal projects to come.

Voiceless will continue to engage with members of the public through

presentations and the publishing of books, via the media and across all online platforms, which saw 170,000 visitors, followers and sign ups in 2019. We will strive to maintain our position as a key influencer in the public debate about animal issues, and we're proud that we have a trusted and respected reputation that allows our voice to be heard.

TOGETHER,
WE WILL MAKE
A DIFFERENCE
TO THE LIVES
OF ANIMALS
AND FULFIL
OUR VISION
OF A WORLD IN
WHICH THEY ARE
TREATED WITH
RESPECT AND
COMPASSION.





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