UCLA AND ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION

The biomedical buildings at UCLA: Semel, Jules Stein, Doris Stein, Reed, Wasserman, etc. that look so beautiful on the outside, hide an ugly reality of fraud, cruelty and waste of tax dollars. Countless numbers of animals are tortured in those buildings every year, out of sight and out of mind for almost everyone who passes by. In 2015, UCLA biomedical researchers received a total of $625.1 million in grant money, a 2.5% increase from 2014.

Vivisectors at UCLA experiment mainly on mice and other rodents since they are not legally required to keep track of their numbers. Rodents, like all animals in labs, are considered “research tools,” disregarding the fact that they are sentient beings who feel fear, depression, terror and pain, and self-mutilate to try to escape their fate. Primates are also a favorite “tool” of the vivisectors. A vervet (African green monkey) breeding colony in South Carolina and colonies on St. Kitts and Barbados supply UCLA with an endless number of monkeys to use in their horrific experiments.

UCLA vivisectors, like most laboratory sadists, are involved in what is called, “basic research,” animal experimentation done repeatedly for decades for the sole purpose of mixing and matching various chemicals, drugs, pain procedures, surgeries, body proteins, and studying their effects on animals. The vivisectors do this so they can publish their experiments and obtain grants. Once a vivisector obtains a grant from the NIH (our tax dollars) they continue receiving grants for decades with no need to show any relevance of their experiments to humans. They use language in their protocols that no one can understand, least of all the politicians in Congress who shower them with funds to supposedly find “cures” to human disease and to figure out why human drug addicts are addicted. To anyone with common sense, this sounds like sheer stupidity, and yet it continues year after year.

LEADING VIVISECTORS AT UCLA

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EXAMPLES OF THEIR EXPERIMENTS

1) Studying the effects of morphine in mice lacking a certain protein. Testing the responses of mice to pain by seeing how long it takes for them to remove their tail from hot water, placing mice in locomotor boxes to see how they respond to different lights and then adjusting doses of morphine and fentanyl.

2) Experiments regarding Pavlovian conditioning (which was considered abhorrent and unacceptable when Ivan Pavlov inflicted these experiments on dogs in the 1800s) to show that the response to locomotion can mimic drug responses in mice. They repeatedly place the mice’s tails on heated and non-heated hot plates to record how often they lick their paws and flick their tails. They say that they want to see if the rodent responses are the same as human responses - flicking tails and licking paws? Obviously, this has nothing to do with humans.

3) Studying guinea pig adrenal glands to create a model for opioid precursors. After much maneuvering of, and studying the dissected adrenals of a guinea pig and using vivisector language to describe it all, their publication admits that “there are considerable species differences” and “guinea pig adrenal is unusual in that is the only species in which we detect prodynorphin as well as proenkephalin fragments.” The vivisectors themselves know that these experiments are completely irrelevant to human beings and they admit it.

4) Studying the development of morphine tolerance in male but not female mice. After giving the mice constant doses of morphine, the hot plate test and the tail-in-hot-water test were used to prove that usually male mice are more sensitive to pain than female mice even after they removed the ovaries of the female mice. The experiments were tweaked every which way but the conclusion was the same, and the relevance to humans was nil.

MORE EXPERIMENTS BY UCLA VIVISECTORS

Jules Stein Eye Institute - Investigating the gene profile of the limbus in direct comparison with the cornea and conjunctiva in the vervet monkey. The vivisectors cut the eyes out of young monkeys in order to “compare different cell types.” The conclusion is that the study “has identified many genes that are preferentially expressed in the limbus of the vervet monkey that have not been reported previously.” Again, we must ask why this is being done. Human bodies are donated regularly to UCLA for study. The only study of eyes that is applicable to humans is the study of human eyes.
Semel Institute of Neuroscience and Human Behavior - **Blinks slow memory-guided saccades.** This vivisector used three monkeys to compare eye movements in monkeys with and without blinking. She implanted eye loops and cranial cylinders and restrained them in a stereotaxic chair. The skull was exposed with a plastic head holder for restraint. Three cylinders were secured to the head holder with screws and dental acrylic. She trained the monkeys to look at various locations and rewarded them with water when they did it correctly. The “important” conclusion to this horrific experiment was that “memory-guided saccades are slower than visually-guided saccades.” This is “basic research” at its worst, perpetrated by a vivisector who used to work at the University of Wisconsin and left under a cloud after one of her experiments ended in an especially gruesome death of a monkey. Similar experiments by her continue unimpeded.

**Neurosurgery, Integrative Biology and Physiology – Spinal Cord Experiments.** The head spinal cord vivisector has been perpetrating the most heinous experiments imaginable on cats, monkeys and rats since the 1970s. He began his decades-long brutalization on animals by breaking the spinal cords of cats, mutilating them, implanting electrodes in their brains and forcing them to crawl on treadmills, dragging their hind legs behind them. He continues to commit the same atrocities on monkeys and rats. He now claims his internal and external electrical devices are helping people walk even though nothing he has done to animals can be extrapolated to humans or has reactivated anyone’s spinal cord or helped anyone walk without the help of implants and robotic devices.
OVERVIEW

Animal experimentation cannot be extrapolated to humans because of differences in physiology, metabolism, genetics, biochemistry and environment. It is not science. It does not help humans. It continues because of greed and because there is no shortage of sadists who enjoy torturing animals.

Primates, cats, dogs, rodents, and other animals are used for “basic research” to study psychology, alcoholism, drug addiction and obtain neural information, all which cause terrible suffering. Besides undergoing cruel and deadly experiments, the animals develop serious pathological conditions, intestinal parasites and serious infections resulting from the brutalization of their minds and bodies. The animals are drugged with opioids, forced to develop alcohol and tobacco addiction, subjected to walking on hot plates, have their tails immersed in hot water, are thrown in water to see if they swim, eye coils implanted and electrodes inserted into the brain, are deprived of food and water, restrained in cylinders, and more. Repetition of these experiments numbers in the hundreds of thousands taking place in labs all over the world and have been going on for many decades. The Animal Welfare Act rules require a bare minimum of care for the animals in laboratories and even those have been regularly broken by UCLA. But no matter how egregious those violations may be, they cannot compare with the horrors of the experiments themselves.

What Can Be Done to Stop it?

Write to your representatives and share with them the scientific argument against vivisection outlined above. Tell them the cruelty is self-evident and that it does nothing to further human health and is a shocking waste of tax dollars.

Write to the Chancellor Gene Block and the UC Regents of UCLA and let them know the fraud, cruelty and waste of vivisection is not acceptable. chancellor@ucla.edu regentsoffice@ucop.edu

Write to newspapers and news stations that claim there are breakthroughs that have come from animal experimentation and let them know that is false.

Send back any donation-request mailers from disease organizations (Cancer Society, Susan G. Koman, Alzheimer’s Society, Easter Seals, etc.), tell them you will not donate to any “charity” that tortures animals while pretending to be looking for cures and tell celebrities to stop supporting these Big Pharma disease organizations.

It is only when the majority of the public understands the harmful repercussions of vivisection that they will demand that our politicians, on both sides of the aisle, stop giving money to the NIH for useless, wasteful animal experimentation.

Educate yourself regarding the vivisection issue. For a short, easy-to-read overview of the entire petrochemical/pharmaceutical paradigm and the negative effects of vivisection on all of us, read VIVISECTION: SCIENCE OR SCIENCE FICTION available from People for Reason in Science and Medicine.

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