

Officials Ignore, As Live Markets Disgrace San Francisco

In July 2009, Kinship Circle asked people worldwide to target San Francisco officials in an action campaign against the city's live animal vendors. To date, no merchant has been prosecuted under California Penal Code 597(a), 597(b), 597a, and 597t, which outlaw cruelty to ALL animals. California's food/agriculture code is also ignored when customers move live birds on public transit and inside car trunks.

Animals are ferried into restaurants, buses, trains, and shared dwellings — often kept alive to be "fresh killed" prior to meals — in violation of San Francisco's Health Code 050.

Animals for sale are wrenched from cages by their feet or wings. Cries of distress are heard from holding trucks. Packed in tiny, stacked cages without water, they bake in the sun for hours or days.

San Francisco authorities have not enforced animal welfare and human safety laws, citing an exemption for "poultry" and domestic fowl. But California law 599b identifies "animal" as "all dumb animals" and 597(b) specifies that "every person who causes any animal...to be tortured, tormented, deprived of sustenance, drink, or shelter...is guilty of a crime."

7/21/09: Cruelty For Sale At San Francisco Live Animal Market

www.kinshipcircle.org/letter_library/letter_new.asp?LetterID=1847&seriesfirst=true

This Is Where YOU Come In - A New Approach

While global pressure is an effective strategy, the power of San Francisco's Asian community to block legislation outlawing live markets is stronger. "Until an opposing interest group can pressure them politically, within San Francisco, we'll continue to have the status quo," says Dr. Rich McLellan, Director of California's League of Humane Voters.

Rich asked Kinship Circle to find constituents in immediate and competitive districts to brainstorm a political strategy. In the wake of California's successful Prop. 2 (the 2008 ballot initiative that bans gestation crates, veal crates, battery cages), Rich sees a chance to "out-vote" the Chinese lobby. "But it needs to be a well organized, educated and disciplined political effort similar to the one HSUS coordinated for Prop 2," he says.

Live In San Francisco, Within 20 Miles, Or Know Anyone Who Does?

Take part in a political action campaign to fight the live-market trade! Kinship Circle is compiling a list of people for Dr. Rich McLellan. League of Humane Voters will contact you about a strategy session in San Francisco.

TO PARTICIPATE IN A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST LIVE MARKETS:

- You are a San Francisco resident.
- Or, you live within a 20-mile radius of San Francisco.
- Non-residents: Forward this alert to anyone you know in the Bay Area!

SAN FRANCISCO & SURROUNDING AREA RESIDENTS, SEND:

1. Your First/Last Name:
2. Street Address:
3. City, State, Zip Code:
4. Phone Numbers:
5. Email:
6. Are you subscribed to Kinship Circle?

****Type in subject line of your email: SF LIVE MARKETS**

****Send your information to: info@kinshipcircle.org**

League of Humane Voters, California Chapter

Rich McLellan MD, Director

Michiko Vartanian, Communications

ph: 323-666-9075 / email: CA@lohv.org

Facebook: LOHVCA

Twitter: LOHV-CA