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The Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive

Special Collections Research Center
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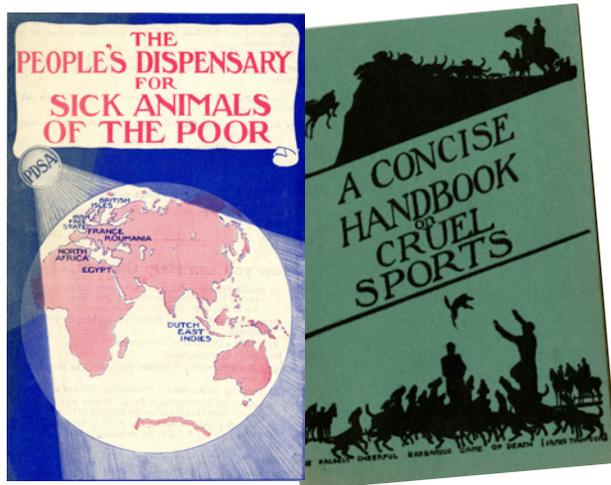
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The Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive

The Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive, established in 2000, is named in honor of Dr. Tom Regan, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at North Carolina State University, a distinguished scholar and teacher whose gift of his personal library and papers serves as the foundation of the Archive. The Archive represents the first attempt by a university to establish a single central repository for rare and unique materials relating to animal rights.

Dr. Regan has been described as “the philosophical leader of the animal rights movement” by the editors of *Utne Reader*, who identified him, along with the Dalai Lama, as “one of [50] visionaries who are changing the world.” He has also been identified as the “intellectual genius who articulated philosophically the basis of the [animal rights] movement.”

The Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive is the best venue for scholars, activists, and other interested individuals to study the history and development of the animal rights movement in the United States and beyond. Our collections provide an unparalleled and unique means of accessing the social, cultural, legislative, and intellectual history of the animal protection movement.



The Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive at the North Carolina State University Libraries maintains collections that document the history and development of the animal rights movement. Key holdings in the Archive include:

The Tom Regan Papers

The Tom Regan Papers document the career of NCSU Philosophy Professor Tom Regan. His work provides much of the philosophical and ethical underpinnings for the contemporary animal rights movement in the United States. His collection has been called the foundation for this field of study because “the one who has assembled it is the intellectual genius who articulated philosophically the basis of the movement.”

The Culture and Animals Foundation Collection

The Culture and Animals Foundation (CAF) is a nonprofit cultural organization committed to fostering the growth of intellectual and artistic endeavors united by a positive concern for animals. Founded in 1985 by Nancy and Tom Regan, the CAF exists to expand understanding and appreciation of animals and to improve the ways in which they are treated in human society. The collections include historical and financial records, correspondence, programs, artistic portfolios, and other items dating from 1985 to the present.

The Animal Rights Network Records

The Animal Rights Network Records contain materials documenting the activities of the Animal Rights Network in advocating for the ethical and humane treatment of animals. Issues addressed by the organization include live animal experimentation, exploitation of animals for sport and entertainment, intensive breeding and slaughter of domestic animals for food, and irresponsible companion animal guardianship.

The Argus Archives Records

The Argus Archives served as a resource for other humane organizations around the world. The material collected by the Argus Archives focuses on the daily treatment of animals and characterizes the efforts of humane organizations in North America, Europe, and Asia to stop abuse through humane education and legislation.

The Animal Welfare Institute Records

The Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) Records document the organization’s work to reduce the suffering of animals in research laboratories and other experimental environments. The AWI, founded in 1951 by Christine Stevens, later expanded its efforts to monitor animals in the wild, in farms, and in other captive environments.

PETA Research Files

The research files of PETA contain records that document animal rights issues from around the world. The subjects addressed in the materials include smuggling and poaching, genetic engineering, drug testing, and various issues pertaining to animal testing.

The Ron Scott Collection

The Ron Scott Collection contains footage depicting animal rights events as well as animal abuse. Ron Scott traveled around the United States and Europe videotaping hundreds of hours of footage of animal rights events as well as cases of animal cruelty.

The Esther Mechler Papers

The Esther Mechler Papers document Mechler’s interest and participation in the animal rights movement. In 1990 she founded SPAY/USA, a national referral service for low-cost spay/neutering. The organization is now considered one of the largest spay/neuter advocacy and referral programs in the world.

