

Topic: Animal Experimentation can never be justified

Introduction: In 2013, the Home Office announced that the number of animals used in scientific experiments rose 8% between 2008 and 2012, reaching 4.11 million. However, the government had promised in 2010 that they would lower the number of animals used. Animal rights campaigners see this increase as proof that scientists are failing to meet ethical duties to avoid harming animals. However, supporters of animal testing claim its potential benefit to medical and scientific progress are a necessary evil outweighing other concerns. Two main ideas are debated:

- 1) First, there is the scientific question of the exact contribution that animal experiments make to medical and scientific progress, and whether alternative methods can be used.
- 2) Second is the moral status of animals. Should animals have the same rights as humans? They can feel pain and can suffer during some of the experiments.

Essential reading:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/animals/using/experiments_1.shtml

<https://www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/laboratory>

<http://www.aboutanimaltesting.co.uk/controversy-of-animal-testing.html>

Agree	Disagree
http://www.peta.org.uk/issues/animals-not-experiment-on/	http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/science/science-news/3353960/Should-we-experiment-on-animals-Yes.html
http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/jul/18/animal-testing-talk-about-medical-research	http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2008/may/31/anecessaryevil?uni=Article:in%20body%20link
http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2012/jul/12/animal-testing-safer-methods	http://www.spiked-online.com/newsite/article/223#.V2EdHU3mo74
https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2005/aug/06/animalwelfare	

What are you arguing (REASONS WHY YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE)?		Useful facts or statistics
Point 1:		
Point 2:		
Point 3:		
Point 4:		