

Just say **NO** to exotic animal acts



Although the acts underneath the big top may **look** glamorous and exciting - **behind** the spangles and sparkle is a very **different story**. Please consider the facts on the back of this leaflet...

DID YOU KNOW?

- Animals in circuses can be on the road for up to 50 weeks of the year.
 - The physical and practical constraints of the circus environment often result in animals being either chained or confined to travel cages at virtually all times when not performing.
 - Elephants, who would normally walk many kilometers each day, are often forced to stand in place for hours.
 - Animals in circuses often have no alternative but to eat, drink, sleep, defecate and urinate in the same tiny and confined space.
 - Stereotypic behaviours such as head-bobbing, swaying back and forth, pacing, and bar-biting are common in circus animals, and indicate frustration and psychological distress.
 - Displaying animals outside their natural habitats creates a distorted picture of the animals, and does nothing to educate our children or help them to develop respect or compassion for animals or other people.
- 
- The safety of the public is threatened when wild animals, subjected to difficult living and travel conditions, are made to perform in close proximity to circus spectators.
 - Examples of incidents over the last decade in Canada include:
 - 8.5.99 (Toronto) • A lion bit two trainers during the 'Lights, Camera, Animals' show at Canada's Wonderland.
 - 5.16.99 (Timmins) • An employee of the Leonardo Circus died after being kicked in the head by an elephant.
 - 4.13.97 (Calgary) • An elephant giving rides at the Al Azhar Shrine Circus bit and knocked down one of her handlers.
 - 7.96 (Quebec) • A 39-year-old Asian elephant attacked her trainer as he was preparing her to give rides to children.
 - 3.15.94 (Montreal) • A tiger attacked a trainer during a Murat Shrine Circus performance.
 - 6.7.92 (Cambridge) • A 14 year-old handler at African Lion Safari was knocked down and trampled by an elephant after a show.



YOU CHOOSE. THEY CAN'T.

Please attend only animal-free circuses, and encourage your friends and family to do the same.

Distributed by

Canadian Federation of
Humane Societies
102-30 Concourse Gate
Nepean ON K2E 7V7
1 888 678 CFHS
www.cfhs.ca