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Hr 1

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**Born to Be Tested On?**

The topic of animal testing is a very controversial one due to the harm that it causes the animals being experimented on. Now a days we see many products that say NO ANIMAL TESTING, yet this doesn’t mean that no animals were tested on in order to get the ingredients in the products. Some people feel sanguine about the future achievements that mankind could make with this type of testing and argue that it is necessary in order to discover new drugs for medicine or cosmetics. However, many people that against animal testing are inexorable about this cause since the harming of animals is never ok to do for personal human benefit and experimentation can be expensive and unreliable due to many factors.

The cost of animal testing is quite high when you take into account the price of the animals and the equipment needed to do the experiments. Not only that, but the animals also must have housing and their basic needs in order to stay alive, though many do not due to the harsh conditions of testing. In an article that makes this point, it says, “Take Cedar River Laboratories for example, which specializes in selling cats; its price is usually $225 for animals less than sixteen weeks (Katrina Fox).” Another article mentions the use of other methods to test products and states, “Computer modeling technologies are lightning-fast and many cell-based *in vitro* methods are amendable to “high throughput” automation using robotics, all at a much lower cost than animal testing (rsi.org).” People all over the world who are against animal testing argue that the hurt caused and the literal price needing to be paid isn’t worth it.

Reliability is another issue since many of the creatures are biologically different than humans and are also put through abject conditions that make the animal feel lassitude which could throw off results. According to the Humane Society International, they stated, “Animals used in experiments are commonly subjected to force feeding, forced inhalation, food and water deprivation, prolonged periods of physical restraint, the inflictions of burns, and other wounds to study the healing process (ic.galegroup.com).” An example of the animals reacting differently than humans is in the 1960s, when tobacco companies advocated against the health problems that tobacco gave since animals didn’t get cancer from it. According to a study done, “Only one drug out of every ten successfully tested in laboratory animals ends up working in people (Testing Times; Animal Experiments).”

The people that feel zeal about animal testing and who don’t necessarily agree with it have come up with a method called the “3 R’s to help reduce the experimentation and exploitation of animals. We simply need to reduce animal testing, refine the experiments to be more humane, and to replace the animals with different methods of analysis. After all, animal testing is cruel, not to mention expensive and sometimes unreliable.