



HSUS/DICK RANDALL

*Fur is beautiful—on the original owner.*

Many department stores sell fur and fur-trimmed clothing; those that do are unwitting accomplices to the suffering caused by the fur industry. The suffering of furbearing animals caught in traps or raised in cages is very great, and it is unnecessary. Animal fur is slowly but steadily going out of fashion as

it is being replaced by warm and attractive alternatives.

There is no reason to kill animals for fashion, and a lot of reasons not to.



HSUS/FERICSAKACH

*Caged animals are deprived of all that is natural.*



HSUS/DANTZLER



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**Be Fur Free  
in the New Century.**



**Promoting the protection of all animals**

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

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# WARNING:

Stores where you shop may be contributing to the suffering of animals



MODESTE HERWIG/BONT VOOR DIEREN



RAYWIND MELOY

## Cage-Raised Animals Suffer

- More than thirty million minks, foxes, chinchillas, sables, and other animals are bred in captivity and killed each year for their fur.
- There are no laws regulating the care of cage-raised furbearing animals in the United States. As a result, the industry's decisions tend to be motivated by cost, not by concern for animals.
- Confined in small wire cages where natural activities are denied them, these animals often suffer from the rapid spread of disease and unnatural behavior such as self-mutilation, cannibalism, and incessant pacing—behavior induced by the combination of boredom, frustration, and deprivation.



*A piece of fur trim means an animal had to die.*

- The animals are inbred for specific colors, such as “sapphire” and “pastel,” causing severe abnormalities—deafness, crippling of limbs, deformed sex organs, screw necks, anemia, sterility, and nervous system disorders.
- Common methods of killing minks and foxes include asphyxiation with carbon monoxide or carbon dioxide gas (often obtained from crude sources such as automobile exhaust), neck breaking, anal electrocution, and injection of chemicals or pesticides.
- Approximately 75 percent of the fur coats sold in this country are made from cage-raised animals, most of whom are minks.
- An estimated 90 percent of cage-raised foxes are turned into trim for coats and other clothing.



*Leghold traps kill unintended victims.*

## Trapped Animals Suffer

- Millions of beavers, bobcats, foxes, raccoons, otters, coyotes, lynx, and other wild furbearers are trapped each year for their fur.
- Traps kill and maim thousands of dogs, cats, hawks, eagles, owls, ducks, squirrels, and other “nontarget” animals.
- Pain and suffering can last for days before the trapped animal chews or twists off a leg or is clubbed to death or suffocated by the trapper.
- The United States is one of the top producers of wild-caught fur in the world.



*Death rarely comes quickly to a trapped animal.*

However, the most commonly used trap in the United States—the archaic steel-jaw leghold trap—is banned by more than eighty nations, as well as by several states.

- Trapping is not effective in controlling diseases, such as rabies, nor is it necessary for resolving conflicts between humans and wildlife. Still, our state wildlife agencies, acting on behalf of the pro-trapping minority, desperately cling to this outdated practice, even going so far as to label some traps as humane.



*Traps do not solve problems with animals.*

## You Can Help

- Act on your compassion: Don't buy or wear clothing made of fur, lined with fur, or trimmed with fur.
- Make sure the faux fur trim on your prospective new coat is really fake. When animal fur is sheared and dyed, it can appear to be synthetic. It can even fool salespeople.
- Share information with your friends and coworkers. Explain that each small piece of fur trim represents an animal who suffered and died.
- Don't shop at stores that sell fur or items trimmed with fur. Tell the store manager and the company president that you will not shop there if they continue to sell fur.
- If you have old fur, donate it to a wildlife rehabilitator. Wildlife rehabilitators use fur to comfort orphaned and injured animals. If there aren't any wildlife rehabilitators in your area, you can send your tax-deductible donation of fur to The Humane Society of the United States (at the address on the back), and we will send it to a rehabilitator.