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To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Sexual Orientation -- Zoophilia

I am writing this letter to inform you of my research findings that Zoophilia may actually be a sexual orientation. I conducted my study in the mid 1990s and published my findings in a book in 2002, as well as in many professional journals throughout the years.

My study of 82 men and 11 women who have had sexual relations with animals, although small in size, revealed some very interesting and important findings.

First, it is important to note that there is a huge difference between "bestiality" and "zoophilia." "Bestiality" is simply "sex with animals." "Zoophilia" on the other hand means an emotional and sexual attraction to animals. Some zoos (as they call themselves) don't even have sex with animals, and that is especially the case if their loved ones are not interested in sexual relations.

The other important finding was that some people (zoos) are sexually oriented to animals, and the thought of having sex with humans disgusts them. There is nothing to be done about it. It's the same as if one was trying to change a homosexual to become heterosexual. It is impossible. This is the way they were born.

Sexual orientation is based on at least three factors: (1) Who do we sexually fantasize about? (2) Who do we fall in love with? And, (3) who are we sexually attracted to? My study consisted of 350 questions surrounding these three factors, and revealed that many people in the study began fantasizing about sex with animals before they knew anything about sex, they have always been in love with a certain animal, and they find animals (or a certain animal) sexually arousing.

Several people in my study had marriage ceremonies with their animal lovers and maintained they have treated them as spouses. Many are members in

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animal protection organizations. They love animals and will do anything to make sure animals, especially their own animals, are safe, healthy, and happy.

What I have learned by doing this research is that people in general have no issues with neutering animals, with hunting animals, or with eating animals. But when sex enters the picture, people feel animals need to be protected. I don't think anyone asks the animals' permission before they neuter them or before they hunt and kill them. But, when it comes to sex, everyone wants to make sure the animal can consent.

Most mammals who tend to be the zoos' lovers (dogs, cats, horses) can object with body language and can seriously injure a person who does something to them they don't want done to them. Of course, when it comes to chickens or other animals which naturally are harmed in the process, that is obviously animal cruelty, and should be punishable, not because of the sex, but rather because the animal was injured or killed.

I understand there is currently a discussion about changing the laws in Germany regarding sexual relations with animals. I believe there is a big difference between a person who engages in animal cruelty (whether sexually or through another activity) and a person who has a loving, sexual relationship with an animal he/she considers a part of the family.

Please think about what you just read as you consider the changes in the law.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Hani Miletski, Ph.D., MSW Author of *Understanding Bestiality & Zoophilia*