

March 1, 2012 Favor Dissection Choice

To Whom It May Concern,

We are members of Humane Club at West Haven High School. Although we were not given enough notice to be at your hearing, we wanted to make our voices heard. We believe that making students dissect when they do not believe in it or when they do not feel comfortable is wrong and unfair.

We believe that animals feel pain and joy, love and fear, just like us and that it is wrong to kill them in cruel ways and then disrespect their dead bodies by cutting them up and then throwing them away like trash. This is just obvious to us and we really don't understand why others don't see this.

We have done research on dissection and have seen the disgusting ways the animals are killed, such as being put in gas chambers or pinned down and injected with preserving solutions while they are still conscious. Some of us have seen their fear and pain as they struggle because we cared it enough to research it on our own. We think that if teachers would show this to students before every dissection that people our age would not want to dissect. If students are expected to dissect, then they should be honestly told the whole story about how that animal suffered before it got to our school...that maybe it was somebody's pet, or maybe it was just made, like an object just to suffer and be killed or even taken from nature. Not being told the whole story makes us lose faith in our teachers and prevents students from being able to decide what's morally right for us.

Maybe teachers don't tell students about how the animals lived or died because they don't even want to look at the truth themselves or maybe because they think we wouldn't want to dissect if we saw it. But, some of us have seen it and we are spreading the word to our friends. We want to stand up against cruelty to any animal, even those who others don't care about. All animals should be treated kindly and compassionately and dissection isn't kind.

Please support us by making sure that our rights are respected and that we won't be forced to conduct dissection when we know it is wrong in our hearts.

Thank you,

West Haven High School Humane Club
Our Motto is "Cruel Isn't Cool".

Kiana Gomez
Larry Williams
Temira Atkinson-Cogdell
Jenara Rodriguez
Heather Quirk
Sonia Barragan
Mikaila Zanetti

Andrea Briceno

Bethany Cabal
Lina Raldy
Karla Montano
Alissa Ford
Rebecca Collins
Amanda Colon
Lynn Pauer
Cali Fleming
Sasha Torres
Christina Hurdell