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## ACRES needs your help to "Save the World's Saddest Dolphins"

Posted by [theonlinecitizen](#) on May 27, 2011 [60 Comments](#)

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Howard Lee /



At the turn of this year, I [interviewed](#) Louis Ng, the Executive Director of the Animals Concerns and Research & Education Society ([ACRES](#)), and one of the questions was what ACRES plan to do for the coming year. Ng affirmed ACRES's commitment to campaign for the release of the dolphins headed for Resorts World Sentosa (RWS) as part of its interactive dolphin spa programme.

On 27 May 2011, ACRES delivered on that promise with the launch of the "Save the World's Saddest Dolphins" campaign, which aims to create awareness about the plight of the dolphins through music videos, hence urging people to take action through their own video petitions.

Perhaps they might not really be the saddest dolphins in the world to date, but you can't really doubt the ingenuity of the campaign in exploiting social media. You definitely will not doubt the tenacity of ACRES.

The campaign pivoted on the release of an undercover video of the remaining 25 dolphins (two have died in captivity) in Ocean Adventure marine park in Subic Bay, the Philippines. The filming was not without its challenges. "The main obstacle was getting caught doing it undercover but we managed to view the dolphins and successfully completed the investigations," said Ng.

The campaign goes beyond highlighting the plight of the dolphins in captivity, being trained and prepped for their eventual life at RWS. ACRES's efforts are backed by a [detailed report](#) that outlines the errors and pitfalls of keeping wide-ranging wild animals in captivity, including the dangers associated with transmitting diseases to humans. It is not just an animal rights and environmental issue.

The main campaign music video features children and members of the public urging RWS to free the dolphins. Local and foreign bands have produced different covers of the campaign song. "Using social media and by approaching this issue more creatively, we will be able to engage the public more effectively and reach out to a wider audience," said Ng.

"ACRES hope that members of the public will join ACRES in our mission to end this injustice. They may not love animals but they should feel a sense of injustice happening at our doorstep. The dolphins have endured being removed from their homes in the Solomon Islands and stressful transportation. Some of the dolphins watched their family members die, were subjected to living in small, rusty enclosures and endured a year of training sessions. The only thing in store for all of them now is the final stressful transportation to Singapore to entertain RWS guests."

AsiaOne [reported](#) that "RWS, which runs Singapore's first casino as well as the adjacent Universal Studios theme park, had no immediate reaction, saying it was studying the campaign's allegations in detail."

"ACRES hopes that RWS makes a moral decision and let the dolphins go. They believe strongly in CSR (corporate social responsibility) and marine protection and should walk the talk. They should note that even Chris Porter, who sold the wild-caught dolphins to RWS, called for RWS to 'review its motivation for using these animals as a tourist draw'. He was concerned that 'RWS is using the animals primarily to make money while telling the public that its aim is to educate the public on marine conservation.'"



But the message is meant not just for RWS, but also for our government, as our representative in the global community. Ng hopes that "the Singapore government will follow the progressive example set by other countries (such as Chile and Costa Rica) and ban the capture and display of dolphins, recognising that these animals belong in the vast open oceans."

"They should also heed the advice given by Mexican Senator Jorge Legorreta Ordorica (Chairman, Committee of Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries) who urged Singapore to consider Mexico's experience and 'the disturbing mortality' of the animals when evaluating applications for the permits to import such dolphins," Ng says.

With an extensive online campaign, "Save the World's Saddest Dolphins" does have its non-cyberspace

initiatives, as ACRES will also be embarking on a series of roadshows. The first roadshow is held at Far East Plaza (Level 2 Concourse) from 27 to 29 May at Far East Plaza, Level 2 Concourse.

To get involved:

- Visit the campaign website at [www.saddestdolphins.com](http://www.saddestdolphins.com)
- Support the campaign on [Facebook](#)
- Share the [original campaign song](#) with your friends
- Write a message or shoot a video about what you think of RWS's dolphin programme and send it to ACRES
- Write directly to [RWS](#)

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Pictures from [ACRES](#).

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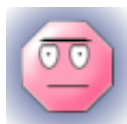
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## 60 Responses to "ACRES needs your help to "Save the World's Saddest Dolphins""



1. Real Perspective [30 May 2011](#)

Those who supports ACRES here and still eat slaughtered meat for their meals are disgracing themselves really.



2. pugdragon [30 May 2011](#)

I do not believe animals should be killed or abused for humans who can do without those acts. This is the video that turned me pescetarian & subsequently vegetarian.

<http://www.meat.org/video-2.asp>

It's Meet Your Meat. See the truth about what the "normal" food on your plate really is.



3. Fairplay [30 May 2011](#)

Real fair,

Plants are living things too. Do you drink milk from animals which are originally meant for their own kids?

So do you feel it is fair to keep the dolphins in captivity, simply because you are 'bound' to your chair in the cubicle?

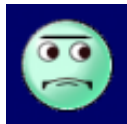
Don't change the subject. This is about keeping animals in captivity, simply for money.



4. Real Fair [30 May 2011](#)

Fairplay: 'Don't change the subject. This is about keeping animals in captivity, simply for money.'

OK stick to 'keeping animals in captivity, simply for money' What do you think your beef, chicken, pork come from? Are they not animals? Or are you dividing animals into elites and lesser mortals? Recommend you watch the doc. Food Inc. Have you seen how they are packed into cubicles, fed and waiting for the moment to be slaughtered for your meals? Comparing these animals to the dolphins is like comparing hell and paradise. You still have not answer whether you are a vegetarian or not.



5.

greg [30 May 2011](#)

Aren't the world's saddest Dolphins on the other side of Sentosa in that hell hole called Dolphin Lagoon?!?!?



6.

Tan Ah Beng [30 May 2011](#)

@Real Fair

Well said... in fact the rearing of chicken, pigs, cows, salmon etc are simply for MONEY too! These people are not doing a charity. Exactly the same motive as those rearing dolphins.



7.

Fairplay [31 May 2011](#)

Real Fair

I watched Food Inc, Cove and go on natural safaris where humans are in cages instead of animals. When we slaughter animals for food, as part of survival, not just for the industries to make money, it is part of your natural world.

It is alright for a great white to kill a dolphin for food. Just like you kill edible plants to survive and drink the milk for animals meant for their babies. How do you think the animals reared for milk are kept and fed?

Hey! Wake up!

The point of your contention was:

Just because you are bound to your chair in the cubicle and having a lousy life, then we should not fight for the dolphins to be free.

Isn't this your argument? Say it!

From my answer you know that I am not a vegetarian but I eat kosher and halal meat, which means the animals must be slaughtered only for survival, and not as a game of any kind.

So what has that got to do with your contention concerning the dolphins and your life?



8.

Agogo [31 May 2011](#)

Isn't pork also from pigs slaughtered for survival and not a game of any kind?



9.

Fairplay [1 June 2011](#)

Agogo,

Yes, so is pork. But because of my religion, I don't take pork, thus the kosher and halal meat. However, I participated in a demo against torturing of pigs before slaughtering many years back.

Torturing of animals prior to slaughtering, is not permissible. It is not kosher. The slaughtering must be done swiftly by cutting the juglar artery, which also allows blood to be removed as much and as fast as possible.

To some, this is still cruelty. But it is permissible because it as for our survival, just like when the crocodile attacks a human.

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