First Lastname

Mrs. Teacher

12 CP Language Arts

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Stop Animal Cruelty

"I made my first kill. We sprayed fluid down her throat. Her neck caught on fire inside and out. It was true beauty" (qtd. in "Animal Abuse"). These were the words written in the diary of murderer Luke Woodson on torturing his dog ("Animal Abuse"). Of almost 2,000 animal cruelty cases reported in 2007, 64% involved dogs ("Animal Cruelty"). Although animals are not people, they are still living creatures and should not be subjected to purposeful suffering.

Animals deserve rights because they can think and feel. According to the book *Animal Rights*, animal rights is a belief system that animals should have the same rights as humans (Levine 9). People who believe in animal rights disagree with dog fighting, which is illegal and a felony offense in all 50 states ("Dog Fighting FAQ"). Recently, NFL quarterback Michael Vick served 23 months in prison and home confinement due to his role in a dog fighting ring ("Vick Takes Himself Out"). Not only did he force dogs to fight, those that did not perform well were subject to horrible deaths by hanging or drowning (Werder). These punishments are not acceptable for one human to perform on another human, and they should not be acceptable practice for humans to perform on any animal as well.

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