

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: I absolutely support finalizing City Councils Motion 20-1575 regarding rodeos and the inhumane instruments used on animals to force their participation in these cruel events. I have attended rodeos in the past, namely the large one held south of LA in San Juan Capistrano, where I watched in horror as animals were treated viciously in order to "entertain" us humans. I was brought to tears watching baby cows in complete fear as grown men push them around and kicked at them, getting them to the area for the roping event. Then to watch as these docile babies are forced to run from a man on horseback, who throws a rope around their neck as they are running and then flips their small bodies to the ground, while crowds scream and cheer. I was horrified that day watching this, among the other scenes of animal abuse I witnessed and swore I would never return. Wrestling, wrangling, roping, hog-tying, slamming animals' bodies against the ground have NO place in a civilized society. What does that say about us as humans and what does witnessing that abuse teach our children? We have a responsibility to teach them to be gentle and kind in this sometimes cruel world, to be good stewards of this earth we live on, and show compassion towards all. If a child pulls the tail of a cat or smacks a dog on the nose, most adults would explain to them that this is not how we treat animals. We teach them to be kind to our "pets" yet, at the same time, we allow them to see these cruel events take place where the abuse of "farmed" animals is not only welcomed, but celebrated? Rodeos use docile, terrified farm animals that must be provoked in order to make them act "wild." Without the tools of torment such as flank straps, electric prods, and sharpened spurs, etc. there can be no rodeo. I welcome the day when there are no rodeos anywhere and I thank the City Council of Los Angeles for supporting this motion and moving forward towards a change for the good. We can set an example for the rest of the country that the days of abusing animals in the name of "sport" or "tradition" are over.