

Animal abuse leads to more violent behavior



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SCHENECTADY, N.Y.-The Schenectady County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has experienced an increase in animal abuse cases over the last few months. We have seen owners letting animals starve in the dead of winter and others harming pets in disturbing manners. We are concerned about this trend as violence begets violence in all forms.

Mahatma Gandhi's famous quote, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated" can easily be applied to the home. A family with a parent who abuses an animal is most likely experiencing other forms of violence including spousal, child and elder abuse. Research has shown that a person who has the will to torture an animal has the potential to do similar or worse acts to the humans around him or her.

With the help of our friends in law enforcement, we have put some of these dangerous criminals behind bars. To take action against this disturbing trend, we also need the help of our neighbors.

Be on the lookout for how animals in your neighborhood are being treated. If you see any signs of animal abuse, let the authorities know.

Protecting our innocent creatures protects us all.

Mathew Tully

Founder and chief, Schenectady County Society for the Protection of Animals

Niskayuna

info@schenectadyspca.org