

Moral Disputes in Science

Dario Ringach

University of California, Los Angeles

Moral Disputes in Science

Dario Ringach

University of California, Los Angeles

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed today are exclusively my own and do not necessarily reflect those of my employer.

Moral Disputes in Science

Dario Ringach

University of California, Los Angeles

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed today are exclusively my own and do not necessarily reflect those of my employer.

Warning: My opinions are from the point of view of a US scientist whose work is funded by taxpayers.

Moral Disputes in Science

Dario Ringach

University of California, Los Angeles

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed today are exclusively my own and do not necessarily reflect those of my employer.

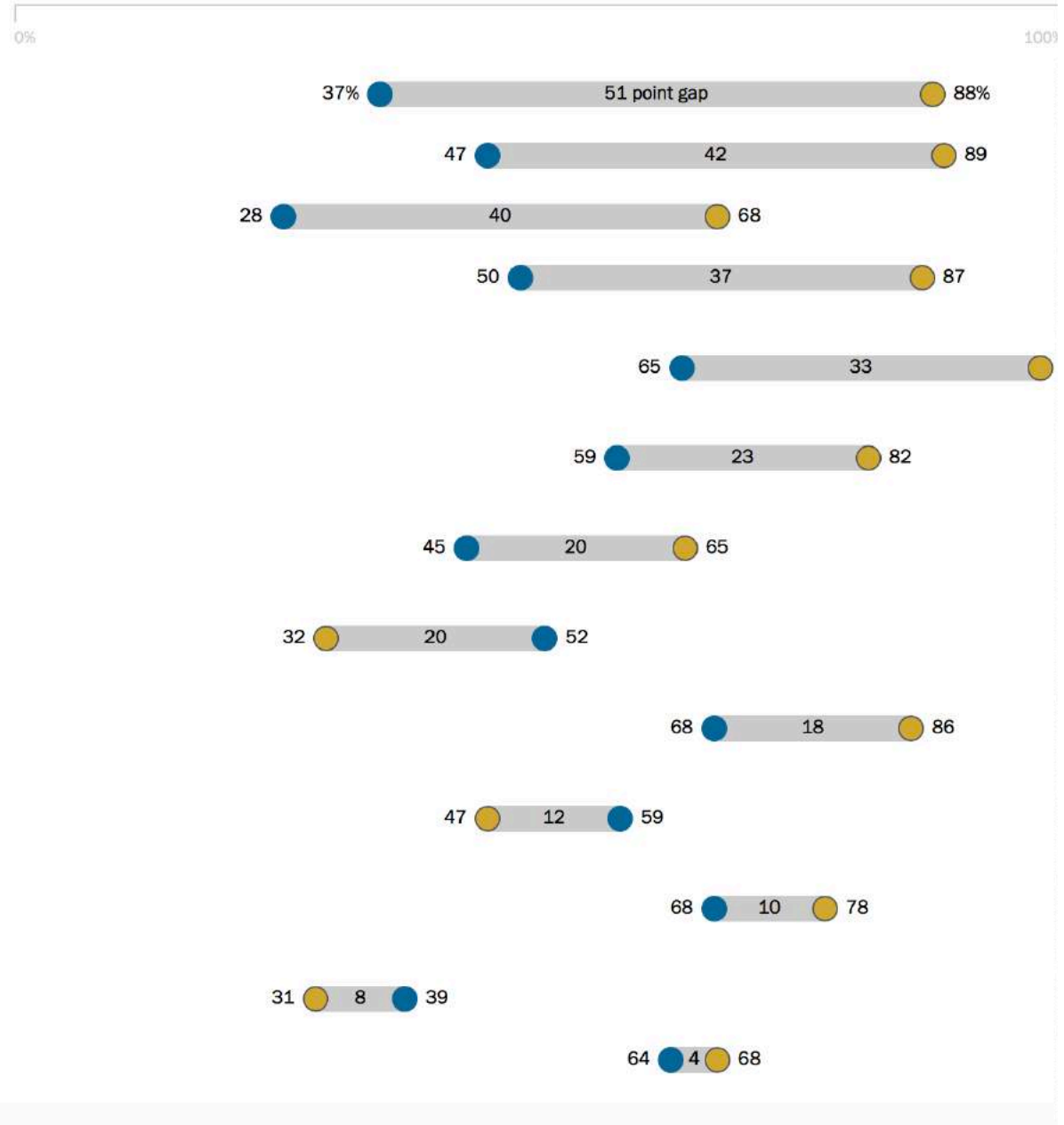
Warning: My opinions are from the point of view of a US scientist whose work is funded by taxpayers.

Warning #2: There is going to be some self-criticism

Gap between public and scientists

● U.S. adults ● AAAS members

- ▶ Safe to eat genetically modified foods
- ▶ Favor use of animals in research
- ▶ Safe to eat foods grown with pesticides
- ▶ The earth is getting warmer mostly because of human activity
- ▶ Humans and other living things have evolved over time
- ▶ Growing world population will be a major problem
- ▶ Favor building more nuclear power plants to generate electricity
- ▶ Favor more offshore oil and gas drilling in the U.S.
- ▶ Childhood vaccines, such as MMR, should be required
- ▶ Astronauts are essential for the future of the U.S. space program
- ▶ Favor increased use of bioengineered fuel to create a gasoline replacement
- ▶ Favor increased use of fracking
- ▶ The Space Station has been a good investment for the U.S.



Science

Ethics

Society/Policy

Science

How are studies approved?

When are animals used?

How are animals used?

How are animals cared for?

What are the laws and regulations?

What are the compliance mechanisms?

What type of training is required?

Science

Opponents actively reach out to the public.

Common talking points:

Why do scientists refuse to use alternatives?

Nothing we learn from mice applies to humans.

Can you prove an experiment is “scientifically necessary”?

Rejecting scientific consensus — the “biomedical research industrial complex”

Science

Made by History • Perspective

The raw water craze threatens to undo one of our major public health achievements

It could end up making everyone sick



By Jonathan Rees January 11 [Follow @jhrees](#)

Jonathan Rees is professor of history at Colorado State University - Pueblo and author of "Refrigeration Nation: A History of Ice, Appliances and Enterprise in America" and "Before the Refrigerator: How We Used to Get Ice."



Raw water: Is the new Silicon Valley craze healthy?



Raw water: Is the new craze healthy?



Science

Wonkblog

California's epidemic of vaccine denial, mapped

By **Christopher Ingraham** January 27, 2015 [✉ Email the author](#)

The [Disneyland measles outbreak](#) has shined a harsh spotlight on anti-vaccine communities in California and around the country. Dozens of people have fallen ill with the disease, the [vast majority of whom](#) are unvaccinated. The year 2014 was already a banner year for measles in the U.S., with preliminary data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showing [the highest number of cases in over two decades](#).

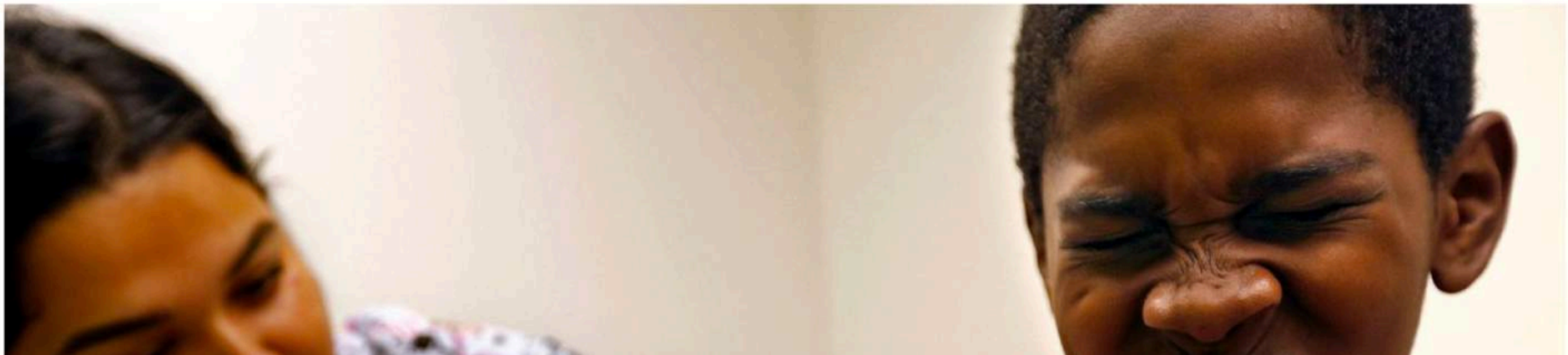
Science

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Despite California's strict new law, hundreds of schools still don't have enough vaccinated kids



By SOUMYA KARLAMANGLA and SANDRA POINDEXTER AUG 13, 2017 | 5:00 AM



Science

Our Services

Our Services

[Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation >](#)

[Hand Therapy Program](#)

[Inpatient Acute Services](#)

[Massage Therapy](#)

[Ornish Reversal Program](#)

[Outpatient Rehabilitation >](#)

[Prosthetics and Orthotics](#)

[Speech Language Pathology](#)

[Urban Zen Integrative Therapy ▾](#)

[Overview](#)

[Patient Testimonials](#)

[Research Articles](#)

[UZITs in Santa Monica](#)

[UZITs in Westwood](#)

[Training Program](#)

[Specialty Services](#)

[Home](#) > [Our Services](#) > [Urban Zen Integrative Therapy](#)

Urban Zen Integrative Therapy

Share this



About the Urban Zen Integrative Therapy Program

In partnership with the Urban Zen Foundation, UCLA Health offers a unique Eastern healing program designed to enhance the care of our patients.

UCLA Health caregivers are trained in providing the following gentle healing modalities to address the primary symptoms of **pain, anxiety, nausea, insomnia, constipation, and exhaustion**:

- Yoga - breath awareness, in-bed movement, guided meditation and restorative poses
- Reiki - a Japanese vibrational energy therapy facilitated by light touch, on or slightly off the body, that balances the human biofield
- Essential Oils - volatile liquids distilled from plant materials used to rejuvenate the mind and body



Science

Our Services

Our Services

- Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation >
- Hand Therapy Program
- Inpatient Acute Services
- Massage Therapy
- Ornish Reversal Program
- Outpatient Rehabilitation >

Home > Our Services > Urban Zen Integrative Therapy

Urban Zen Integrative Therapy

Share this



About the Urban Zen Integrative Therapy Program

- **Reiki - a Japanese vibrational energy therapy facilitated by light touch, on or slightly off the body, that balances the human biofield**

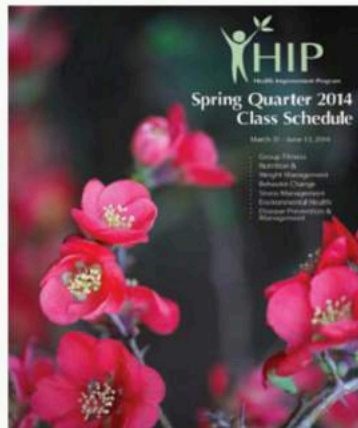
- UZITs in Santa Monica
- UZITs in Westwood
- Training Program
- Specialty Services

- yoga - breath awareness, in-bed movement, guided meditation and restorative poses
- Reiki - a Japanese vibrational energy therapy facilitated by light touch, on or slightly off the body, that balances the human biofield
- Essential Oils - volatile liquids distilled from plant materials used to rejuvenate the mind and body



Science

Reiki Energy Healing Levels 1 and 2




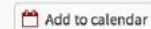
April 26, 2014 – May 17, 2014


9:30 am

See details below for exact dates and times.

Li Ka Shing Learning Center, Room 209 

Sponsored by:
Health Improvement Program

 Share  Tweet  Add to calendar  Email

 Like Be the first of your friends to like this.

Reiki is a natural healing art in which universal life force energy is applied with light touch, either on or slightly above certain areas of the body. This awakens the body's own wisdom and natural healing powers, inducing a state of deep relaxation and balanced energy.

Level 1: You will learn about the history, benefits and principles that guide the practice of Reiki. You will receive an energetic attunement and learn the basic hands-on healing positions. The human bio-energy field and techniques of energy perception, cultivation, grounding and clearing will be discussed and experienced. Students will practice self-healing and giving and receiving Reiki sessions to classmates. You will leave class with the confidence to share Reiki with your family, friends, pets, and plants. Your level 1 certificate allows you to advance to Level 2 Reiki training when desired.



STANFORD FOR YOU

A [monthly email newsletter](#) highlighting upcoming campus events.



ABOUT THIS SITE

[Policies & Procedures](#)
[RSS & iCal Feeds](#)
[Contact Us](#)

POST AN EVENT



What's the Bottom Line?

How much do we know about Reiki?

We don't know very much because little high-quality research has been done on Reiki.

What do we know about the effectiveness of Reiki?

Reiki hasn't been clearly shown to be useful for any health-related purpose.

What do we know about the safety of Reiki?

Reiki hasn't been shown to have any harmful effects. However, Reiki should not be used to replace conventional care or to postpone seeing a health care provider about a health problem.

What is Reiki?

Reiki is a complementary health approach in which practitioners place their hands lightly on or just above a person, with the goal of facilitating the person's own healing response.

- Reiki is based on an Eastern belief in an energy that supports the body's innate or natural healing abilities. However, there isn't any scientific evidence that such an energy exists.
- Reiki has been studied for a variety of conditions, including pain, anxiety, fatigue, and depression.

Science

[HOME](#) » [TECHNOLOGY](#) » [APPLE](#)

Steve Jobs 'regretted trying to beat cancer with alternative medicine for so long'

Steve Jobs died regretting that he had spent so long attempting to treat his cancer with alternative medicine before agreeing to undergo surgery, his biographer has disclosed.



Steve Jobs in 2007 holding the iPhone Photo: David Paul Morris/Getty Images

Apple

[News](#) » [World News](#) »
[North America](#) »
[USA](#) » [Steve Jobs](#) »



The best tablets

Related Partners

[Apple on Amazon.co.uk](#)

In Apple

Science



Assumption: If only they knew the facts, they would agree with us.

Science



Ethics

Why is it Ok to harm animals to advance science and medicine?

Ethics

Why is it Ok to harm animals to advance science and medicine?

Some weak answers:

It is legal, so...

Well... we eat animals... so....

Ethics

A living being is said to have *moral status* if we are morally obliged to give weight to its *interests* independent of their utility to us.

Both animals and humans may be considered to have interests in their well-being, freedom and life and thus to have moral status.

-- Elizabeth Harman "*Moral Status*" (*the Bible*)

Ethics



Ethics

We have no reason to posit such degrees of moral status, so we can conclude that moral status is not a matter of degree, but is rather on/off: a being has moral status or lacks it.

-- Elizabeth Harman

We have two choices -- and only two -- when it comes to the moral status of animals.

-- Gary Francione

We must reject the view that moral agents have inherent value in varying degrees. All moral agents are equal in inherent value, if moral agents have inherent value.

-- Tom Regan

Ethics

Cartesian
view



Animal rights
view



Animal welfarism

*They are automata.
We can do whatever
we want.*

*We owe moral
consideration to all living
beings, but not in equal degree*

*All species have
a basic right to
life and liberty*

Ethics

We (humans) have the unique ability to study and understand Nature, including the basic biological principles underlying life and disease processes.

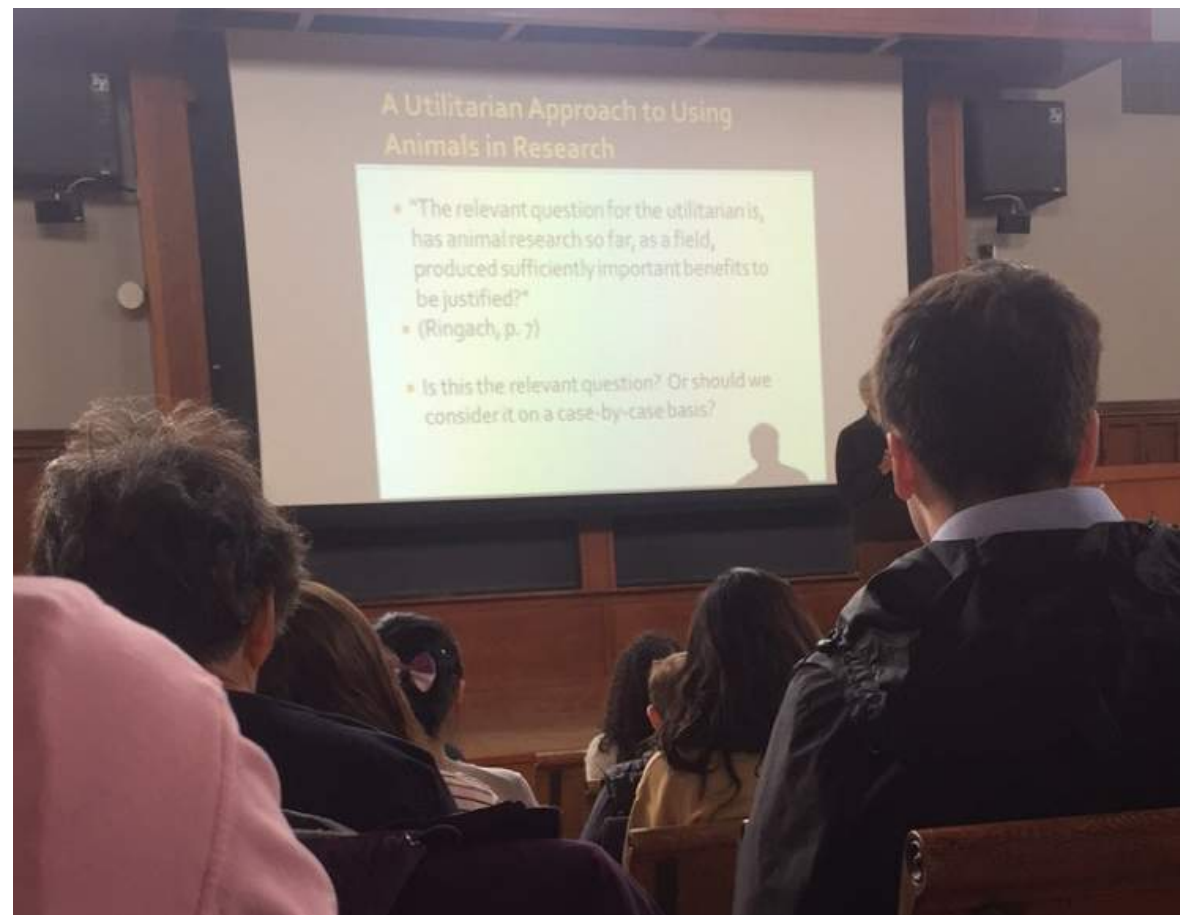
We have the unique ability to store and accumulate knowledge in perpetual form, securing benefits to all future generations.

We have the unique ability to improve well-being of all living creatures human and non-human.

When we are confronted with the incredible suffering caused by disease on one hand, and with our ability to challenge such maladies on the other, we feel a moral imperative to act.

Ethics

Peter Singer teaches Dario Ringach at Princeton



Ethics

Life science & medical students
should be exposed to the ideas of philosophers who
oppose the use of animals for human use

There has to be a public forum where the public
can debate these issues... but where?

Ethics

Panel Discussion on Animal Research at UCLA

Save the date!

Perspectives on the Science and Ethics of Animal-Based Research

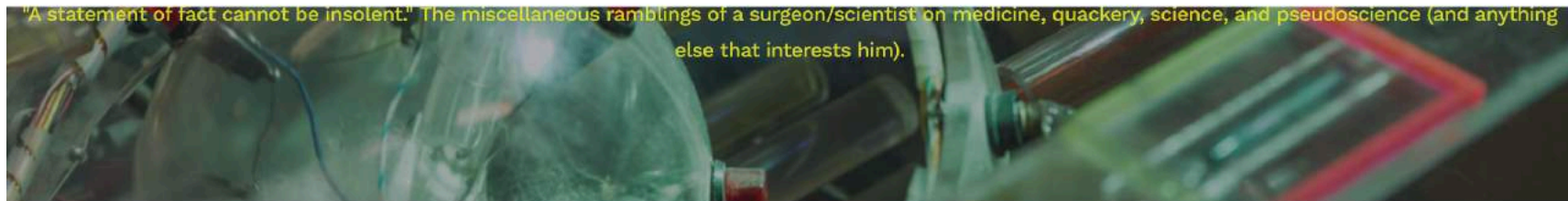
UCLA, Covell Commons, 6pm-8:30pm, February 16th, 2010

With the goal of opening an on-going dialogue between individuals who are in favor or opposed to the use of animals in biomedical research, Bruins for Animals and Pro-Test for Science will be hosting a panel discussion on this complex topic. The event is open to those who want to engage in a civil, intellectually honest discussion on issues about which people hold passionate, differing opinions.

Ethics

☰ Search and explore

📖 Browse



[Home](#)

[About Respectful Insolence](#)

[Who is Orac?](#)

[Comment policy](#)

[Guest post policy](#)

[Contact](#)

BIOETHICS | BIOLOGY | MEDICINE

Animal rights thugs: Researchers' children are not off limits

 Orac | February 24, 2010 | 259 Comments

Remember Dario Ringach?

Ethics

Dynamic moral boundaries



3:55

+ Queue

Download

Embed

Transcript



ARTS & LIFE

Ringling Bros. Curtain Call Is Latest Victory For Animal Welfare Activists

May 21, 2017 · 5:00 AM ET

Heard on All Things Considered



GREG ALLEN



Ethics

Dynamic moral boundaries

SeaWorld to End Controversial Orca Shows and Breeding



The entertainment company has yielded to intense pressure from animal activists.



Ethics

Dynamic moral boundaries

Science Home News Journals Topics Careers

Advertisement

AAAS
AAAS MEMBERSHIP.
MAKE THE CONNECTION.

Join AAAS Sections. They are the foundation of your AAAS membership
Be a subject-matter expert. • Represent your discipline. • Network with leaders in your field.

Log in | My account

SHARE



The NIH says there is no longer a need to use chimpanzees in research.

Thomas Lersch/Wikimedia/Creative Commons

NIH to end all support for chimpanzee research

By Jocelyn Kaiser | Nov. 18, 2015, 5:30 PM

Ethics

Dynamic moral boundaries

Advertisement

Science Home News Journals Topics Careers

FASEB
Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

2018 SCIENCE RESEARCH
CONFERENCE SERIES

REGISTER AT
FASEB.ORG/SRC

Join a community of science professionals in your field to explore emerging research, exchange ideas, and spur innovation

Log in | My account

SHARE



2K



24



13



Macaques used in AIDS research in a U.S. lab.

Dan Lamont/Corbis

NIH to review its policies on all nonhuman primate research

By David Grimm | Feb. 22, 2016, 10:30 AM

Ethics

Dynamic moral boundaries

Harvard Medical School Plans to Close Primate Research Lab

By HENRY FOUNTAIN APRIL 24, 2013



Harvard University announced on Wednesday that it would shut down its primate research center. The

Society

How do we solve moral disputes?

Society

theguardian | TheObserver

News | Sport | Comment | Culture | Business | Money | Life & style

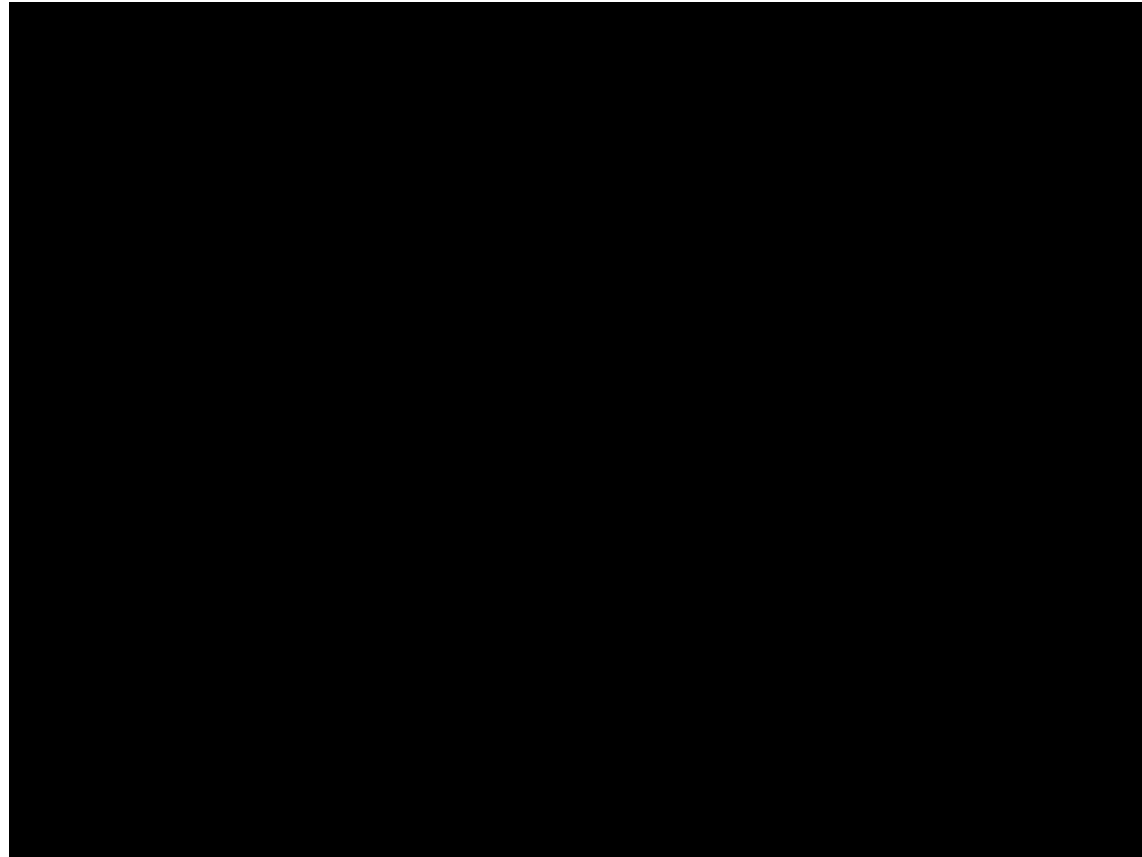
News > Society > Health

Kill scientists, says animal rights chief

Fury as former surgeon calls for selective assassinations

Jamie Doward, social affairs editor
The Observer, Sunday 25 July 2004

Society



Jerry Vlasak, North American ALF Press Office

Arson aimed at UCLA scientist

November 29, 2008 | Andrew Blankstein | Blankstein is a Times staff writer.



Email



Share



G+



Tweet



Recommend 0

Animal rights activists destroyed one vehicle and badly damaged two others in a Palms-area arson attack last week, authorities said.

The incident occurred Nov. 20 and appears to be part of a botched attempt to target a UCLA animal researcher, authorities said.

Activists with the group Students and Workers for the Liberation of UCLA Primates claimed responsibility for the attack, stating on an animal rights website that the destroyed car belonged to Goran Lacan, a UCLA "vivisector."

But on Friday, Los Angeles Police Department investigators said none of the cars belonged to Lacan. The attackers, they said, targeted the wrong home and doused the wrong car with fuel before setting it on fire.



Activist group claims to send AIDS-tainted razors to animal researcher

By Michael Martinez, CNN

November 24, 2010 1:52 a.m. EST



A message on this website said the razor blades were sent to David Jentsch because of his animal research activities.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- **NEW:** Researcher says, "I'm not afraid. I'm angry."

Los Angeles, California -- -- The FBI and University of California at Los Angeles police are investigating a new round of threats from anti-animal research activists who say they sent AIDS-tainted razor blades and a threatening message to a research professor, a university spokesman said Tuesday.

The university said law enforcement officials confirmed that UCLA neuroscientist David Jentsch received a package at his home containing razor blades and a threatening

note. No other details about the package or its contents were given by the university.





Animal rights group says it flooded home

Organization claims responsibility for vandalizing house of UCLA professor whose research uses monkeys.

October 30, 2007 | Larry Gordon | Times Staff Writer



An animal rights group has claimed responsibility for flooding the Westside home of a UCLA professor who uses lab monkeys in research on nicotine addiction.

An FBI spokeswoman said Monday that the agency is investigating the claim that the Animal Liberation Front used a garden hose to flood the house of professor Edythe London on Oct. 20 in an attempt to stop her animal experiments.

The FBI, along with UCLA and Los Angeles police, are treating the vandalism as a case of domestic terrorism and are probing possible ties to a June incident in which an incendiary device was lighted, but did not explode, next to a car at the home of a UCLA eye disease researcher, according to FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller.

TRENDING: Giants' roster SFO flight emergency Chloe Kim Joey Chestnut selling what? Escape of the robots Best taco: top 8 picks

BREAKING NEWS | San Jose council approves prices for Google property sales

News

Firebombs target UC-Santa Cruz scientists who use animals in research





Society

≡ **RollingStone**

Bill O'Reilly's Dangerous War Against Dr. Tiller

Bill O'Reilly's Dangerous War Against Dr. Tiller

O'Reilly waged an unflagging harassment campaign against the abortion provider before Tiller was murdered in 2009



Ilya S. Savenok/Getty

Society

The New York Times

U.S.

WORLD U.S. N.Y. / REGION BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE HEALTH SPORTS OPINION
POLITICS EDUCATION

Abortion Doctor Shot to Death in Kansas Church

By JOE STUMPE and MONICA DAVEY
Published: May 31, 2009

WICHITA, Kan. — [George Tiller](#), one of only a few doctors in the nation who performed abortions late in pregnancy, was shot to death here Sunday in the foyer of his longtime church as he handed out the church bulletin.

[Enlarge This Image](#)



The authorities said they took a man into custody later in the day after pulling him over about 170 miles away on Interstate 35 near Kansas City. They said they expected to charge him with murder on Monday.

The Wichita police said there were several witnesses to the killing, but law enforcement officials would not say what had been said, if anything, inside the foyer. Officials offered little insight into the motive, saying that they believed it was “the act of an isolated individual” but that they were

[TWITTER](#)

[LINKEDIN](#)

[E-MAIL](#)

[PRINT](#)

[REPRINTS](#)

[SHARE](#)