A brief discussion on the ethical basis and legal prospect against animal cruelty

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Abstract: The social impact of cruelty to animals is very bad. The discussion on animal cruelty needs to consider both ethical and legal issues. Both traditional ethics and modern ethics can provide theoretical support for the legitimacy of legislation against animal cruelty; and the social hazards of animal cruelty clarifies the necessity of legal intervention. China has no specific anti-animal cruelty legislation, and one reason for that is the multicultural system. Even so, a flexible and effective regulation system can still be established by making full use of existing institutional tools through regional pilots to national promotion.

Key words: Animal cruelty, animal ethics, legislation

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