

Animal Rights Coalition P.O. Box 8750 Minneapolis, MN 55408 612.822.6161 www.animalrightscoalition.com

## ANIMAL RIGHTS COALITION POLICY ON NON-VIOLENCE

The Animal Rights Coalition, Inc. (ARC) dedicates itself to a violence-free society for *all* animals, both human and non-human.

ARC's mission is to end the suffering, abuse, and exploitation of non-human animals through information, education, and advocacy. We seek to eliminate violence and suffering in the world, *not* to contribute to it.

We believe that positive change comes from connection, communication, and education. We believe we can achieve these goals through practicing non-violence and compassion for all animals – including the human animal.

Violence is defined as any form of assault, whether it is physical, verbal, emotional, or spiritual, on another human or non-human animal.

Verbal violence is defined as language that is insulting, degrading, prejudicial, or judgmental. Verbal violence is not tolerated.

ARC recognizes and welcomes the wide diversity of its members. ARC accepts people at their various stages of awareness, recognizing that awareness is an ongoing learning process.

ARC commits itself, along with Belton Mouras, founder of the Animal Protection Institute, United Animal Nations, and Summit for the Animals, who stated that "the animal rights movement is a life-affirming movement in the tradition of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our purpose is clearly a peaceful one that denounces violence against all animals, human or non-human."