

I am a lawyer in London, and campaigned to the government to include animal cruelty in the Online Safety Bill. I have liaised with Jessica Zucker and Michael Grade in the past about this issue.

There is clear evidence now that the sort of people who enjoy watching animal torture become a serious threat to other people, especially children. It is not just a question of protecting children from seeing these images and videos, If the government fails to take all steps possible against social media platforms who are facilitating the torture of animals, you are greatly increasing the risks that a child will one day be subjected to the same horrors published online being inflicted upon animals.

In addition I attach the following link which discusses the recent UN verdict giving children the right to protection from viewing violence against animals.

<https://wfa.org/protection-from-violence-against-animals-is-now-explicitly-part-of-child-rights/>

Social media companies have shown an shameful lack of interest in removing these stomach-churning videos from their platforms. A recent example is the failure of social media companies like Facebook to remove, despite repeated requests, videos posted by a Nigerian man who is torturing animals.

<https://www.peta.org/action/action-alerts/nigerian-animal-torturer/>

The massacres in America in recent years in Buffalo and Uvalde were carried out by people who had a history of animal abuse.

<https://ladyfreethinker.org/buffalo-and-uvalde-mass-murderers-had-documented-history-of-hurting-animals-new-reports-show/>

I hope all parties involved with this issue, government, Ofcom etc, ask themselves if they would like their children or grandchildren to come into contact one day with the sort of people who want to see the following:-

- hanging a monkey by his scrotum and penis and submerging him in ice-filled water
- cutting off the arm of an infant monkey, beating the infant with the severed arm, then cutting the infant's throat
- Burying monkeys alive
- Cutting off the arm of an infant monkey
- cutting off a monkey's ear using scissors
- setting fire to a baby monkey whose legs were bound and hands were tied
- cutting off a monkey's finger with a knife

- piercing monkeys' ears, noses, tongues, and eyelids with hat pins
- tying infant monkeys to objects and beating them
- physically beating a monkey into submission

Distressing images [3<]

I thank you for considering my input into your vitally important consultation.

Yours sincerely,

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