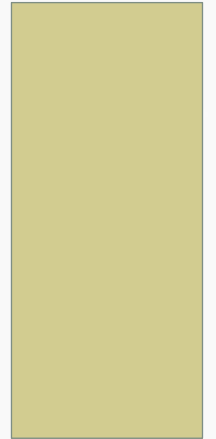




SEXUAL ABUSE

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OVERVIEW

- Terminology & types of animal sexual abuse (ASA)
- Examination protocol
- DNA & trace evidence collection
- Spectrum of lesions

TERMINOLOGY

- **Bestiality:** Physical contact with an animal, from which the person experiences sexual pleasure
 - The term used in most U.S. laws
- **Zoophilia:** Sexual preference for/ attraction to animals
 - Used by many people who sexually abuse animals
- **Animal sexual abuse (ASA):** Abuse in which an animal is involved in a sex act with a person
 - New, more encompassing term

ANIMAL SEXUAL ABUSE (ASA)

- 3 categories
 - **Opportunistic / Experimental**
 - No available human sexual partners
 - OR – “Just curious”
 - **Fixed / Primary** (“Romantic”)
 - Perpetrator is preferentially sexually attracted to, & often emotionally attached to, an animal or species
 - **Sadistic**
 - Perpetrator derives pleasure from sexually injuring an animal (includes “crush videos”)



CRUSH VIDEOS

- A fetish in which one is sexually aroused when someone crushes objects with their body
 - Body - often the foot, including barefoot, high-heels, sandals, etc.
 - Object - food, insects, snails (“Soft Crush”) or reptiles, birds, mammals (“Hard Crush”)
- It is illegal in the U.S. to own, sell/distribute, or produce videos featuring a person or animal trampling or crushing a smaller animal to death
(Animal Crush Video Prohibition Act of 2010)

ANIMAL SEXUAL ABUSE

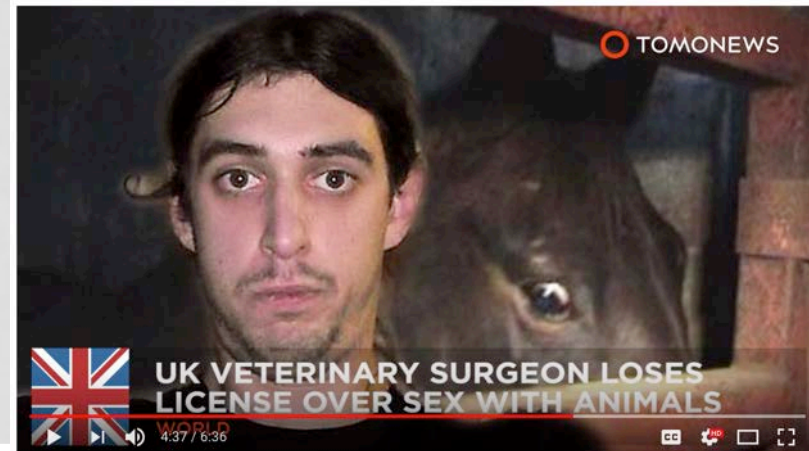
- #1 problem is identifying cases of abuse
 - **Animal sexual abuse can result in no or minor physical injuries to either party**
 - Animals cannot report abuse themselves
 - Offenders are unlikely to report their abuse
 - Most cases witnessed or caught on video

Florida man arrested for abusing family dog more than 100 times (roommate turned him in)



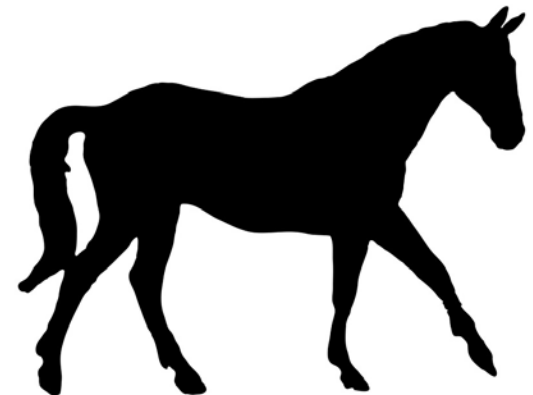
WHAT IS ANIMAL SEXUAL ABUSE?

- Vaginal, anal, or oral fondling or penetration of...
 - animal w/ human hands, mouth, genitals, or object
 - human by an animal's mouth or genitals
- Mutilation of an animal's genitals
- Killing or injuring an animal for sexual gratification
 - Chickens- Cloaca penetration by a human male is fatal; terminal convulsions



ASA STATISTICS

- **Any animal may be sexually abused**, however ***dogs & horses are the most common species*** in the US
- **Male perpetrators are more common**
- Munro 2001: 6% incidence
 - 28 ASA / 448 animal cruelty cases– UK small animal vets
- 75% dogs; 14 female & 7 male
 - 2 dogs died as a result of the injuries
- 18% cats: 3 female, 1 male, 1 unk
 - 1 cat died as a result of the injuries
- 2 species not identified
 - unknown if survived or died



ANIMAL SEXUAL ABUSE: GOALS

1. Collect trace evidence

- Same procedure every time, regardless of whether there are visible lesions /evidence
 - Absence of findings could be innocent

2. Document lesions (if any)

- Careful internal & external exam
- **WARNING**: Health risks to investigators
- **Wear powder free gloves**
 - Don't contaminate swabs with your DNA!
 - Don't come into contact with human fluids!



Xrays
(pelvis &
os penis)

External Exam:
Well lit room

Comb for
foreign
material

External Exam:
UV / Blacklight (ALS)

DNA swabs:
Genitals, Rectum
& Oral cavity

Tox samples & urine
(free catch if alive)

**Rectal, +/-
Vaginal
Wash**

Necropsy:
Internal exam, +/- Histo

Xrays (pelvis & os penis)

- Whole body
- Focusing on pelvis, tail, & os penis
 - Proximal caudal vertebral Fx (“pulled tail”)
 - Foreign Bodies- rectal & vaginal
 - Os penis Fx



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ASA: EXTERNAL EXAM

- Carefully examine haircoat in a well-lit room
 - Foreign hairs, stains, dried or moist material
- Check the nails for fibers / tissue
 - If found, collect the entire nail (cut @ base of P3) & pack in a paper envelope
 - +/- Swab for DNA
- Comb fur around genitals; use white paper to catch any loosened hair or material

ASA: EXTERNAL EXAM

- Check: external genitalia, perineum, rectum
 - Use clock face to describe lesions of orifices
- Beware of artifacts
 - Flaccid anal sphincter → mild to moderate dilation
 - Abdominal bloating → rectal prolapse



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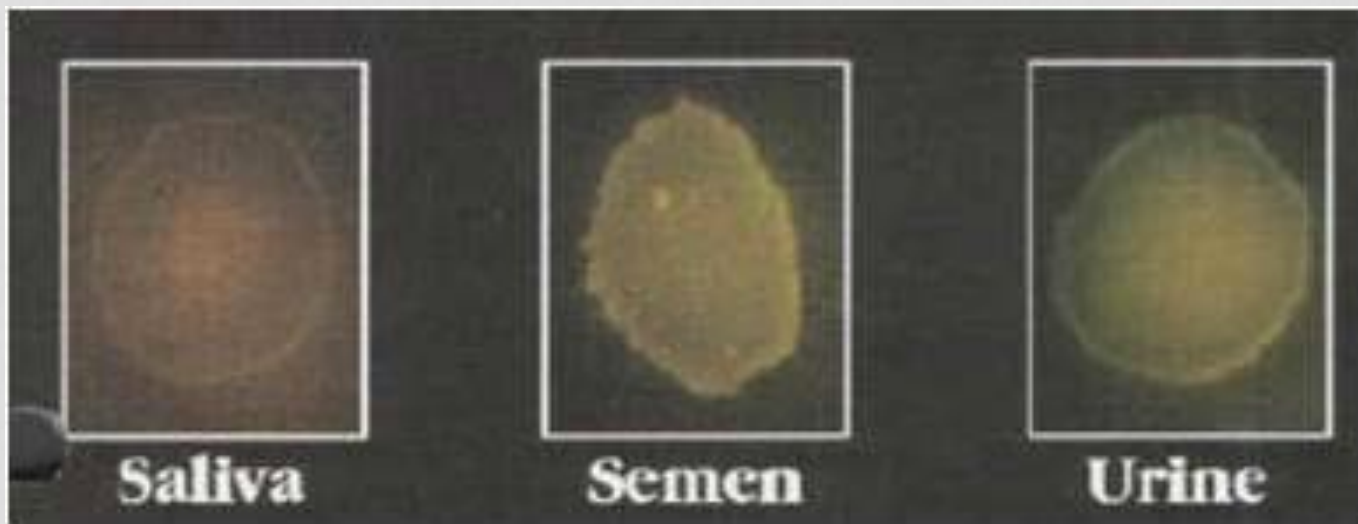
ASA: EXTERNAL EXAM -ALS

- Alternative light source (ALS) in a dark room
 - Woods lamp OK but commercial ALS are better
 - Things that fluoresce:
 - Biological fluids
 - Skin cells (inc. animal's own dander)
 - Fibers (including lint)



ASA: EXTERNAL EXAM -ALS

- Semen
 - Characteristic shiny appearance & tends to flake
 - May have yellowish color under UV light
 - May appear as smears, streaks, or splash marks
 - Moist or recently dried semen may not fluoresce



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DNA EVIDENCE: PURPOSE

- **Used to ID the people & animals involved**
- Shows the material present
 - Ex: Sperm or not
- Shows the **type of contact**
 - Ex: “Sperm in vagina”
 - Semen can ID a suspect via DNA
- Prone to contamination by foreign DNA
 - Change gloves frequently, & whenever cross-contamination may have occurred
 - i.e., another source of DNA is touched

DNA EVIDENCE: WHAT TO SWAB

- **Oral cavity**
 - Between the gingiva & cheeks, & Under the tongue
- **Vestibule/ Vagina OR Penis inc. bulbus glandis**
 - Swab with at 1 dry & 1 moistened swab
 - Use speculum for female to decrease victim “contaminate” DNA
- **Perineum**
- **Rectum**
- Document substances introduced for exam (i.e, lube)



Angle dorsal, THEN cranial.

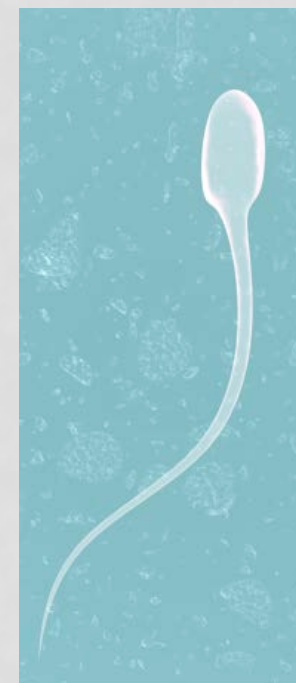
DNA EVIDENCE: HOW TO SWAB

- Sterile swabs, individually packaged
- If target is wet/moist (ex: mucosa) → dry swab
- Target is dry (ex: haircoat) → moist swab
 - Wet with sterile saline
- Air dry swab 15min out of sun light
- Package each swab **separately** in sterile paper sleeves
 - Label w/ anatomic site



WHEN THERE'S NO SPERM...

- NO semen recovered does NOT mean that ASA did NOT occur.
- Semen may **NOT** be recovered due to:
 - Condom used
 - Ejaculation elsewhere
 - No ejaculation
 - Aspermia/ Azospermia
 - Object (non- penile) penetration
 - Sperm was removed or washed away
 - Improper collection technique
 - **>72 hr (people)** between assault & exam
 - Less chance of recovery - biologics degrade



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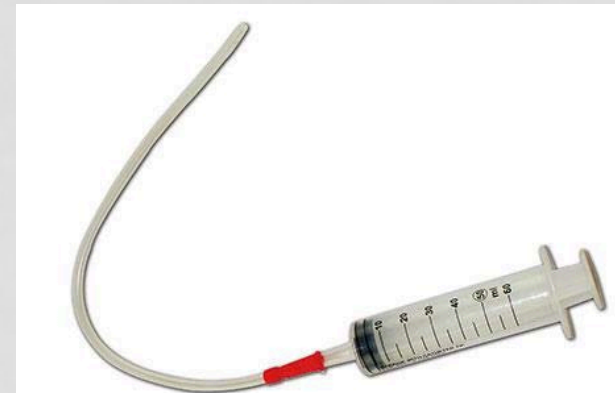
TOXICOLOGY & WASHES

Toxicology

- **Post-Mortem:** Tox blood & tissue including urine
- **Live: *Free catch*** urine (washes out evidence) & blood

Rectal & Vaginal Washes

- Using a syringe & urinary catheter, infuse sterile saline into the vagina → aspirate → re-infuse & aspirate 2-3x
- Place wash fluid in Red top tube
- Submit to forensic lab for analysis
 - # 1- microscopic exam for sperm



Test	Human Semen	Canine Semen
Hemotoxylin & Eosin	Post-acrosomal region dark purple. Acrosomal cap pale purple. Clear line of demarcation between the two.	Post-acrosomal region pale purple. Acrosomal cap pale purple fading to colorless at the tip.
Christmas tree stain (Nuclear fast red & Picroindigo-carmin)	Post-acrosomal region dark red	Post-acrosomal region red, with a colorless band between it & acrosomal cap. Acrosomal cap pale red.
Size & shape	Head size 4.6 X 2.6 um	Head size 7X4 um
Acid phosphatase (Screening test; H-Prostate fluid)	+POS	- Neg
Anti-p30 (Confirmatory test; H-Prostate fluid)	+POS	- Neg

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ASA: NX EXAM

- Examine abdomen: Distal colon & repro tract
- Remove repro tract *en bloc* & examine
- Types of injuries reported (Munro 2001):
 - Vaginal & ano-rectal injuries
 - Penile & non-penile penetration
 - Perianal injury
 - Genital trauma

MUNRO & THRUSFIELD 2001

- **The types & range of severity of canine & feline injuries were similar to human adult & pediatric sexual assault**
 - Recurrent or refractory vaginitis
 - Uterine tears, Cervical scarring
 - Intrauterine, intra-cervical, and vaginal foreign bodies
 - Vaginal trauma & hemorrhage
 - Uterine hemorrhage
 - Knife wounds in the vagina
 - Penetrating wounds around the anus, vulva, or perineal area
 - Necrotic anal mucosa
 - Anal dilation & tears
 - Ligature around genitalia (DIY Castration)

SUMMARY

- Though uncommon, **animal sexual abuse does occur** & physical injury, including fatalities, happen
- WEAR GLOVES to prevent DNA contamination & transmission of infectious (human) diseases
- Procedure
 - Radiographs
 - External exam- daylight
 - Exam- blacklight/ ALS
 - Comb the fur around the genitalia & perineum
 - Collect oral, genital, & rectal DNA swabs
 - Samples for toxicology & urine
 - Vaginal/ rectal washes
 - Necropsy / internal exam

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