

The lack of ethical training in scientific fields

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Historical separation between Science and Ethics (Humanities)

- In daily life one is linked to another. Moral values influence attitudes even scientific practices.
- Scientific practices inescapably brings ethical questions that can not be answered by science alone

Historical separation between Science and Ethics (Humanities)

- C.P. Snow, *Two cultures* (1959): intellectual life of the western society was split into two cultures: the sciences and the humanities – a major hindrance to solving the world's problems.
- Van Hensaeller Potter, *Bioethics* (1970): attempts to connect ethical values and scientific practices
- Critical Bioethics: interdisciplinarity, self-reflexivity (scope) and the avoidance of uncritical complicity

Degrees in biological areas (Brazil)

- The dichotomy “Science Vs. Philosophy” affects the educational model.
- 26,2% of Veterinary Medicine degrees have animal welfare courses of which only 80% are mandatory (Lima et al., 2014)
- In Biology , around 70% of Pedagogical Programs do not include Bioethics in the curricula. From those that include, only half is mandatory. (Pinto, 2016)
- In Medicine, most curricula aims technical aspects of profession, neglecting the ethical education of future physicians (Neves 2016)
- Lack of ethical training + lack of animal welfare understanding + desensitization process - obstruct humane education

Science do not answer ethical questions

- Scientific progress is accompanied by ethical issues.
- Why do we use animals? Is this fair? Justifiable? Based in which criteria? What animals are accepted to be used? Is there limits for this? Based on what?
- Animals' use is taken for granted. We do not naturally question structural aspects of daily practices without special training

Science do not answer ethical questions

- “Using animals is good for society” is an unquestionable premise.
- But considering that animals are also part of the society and that their interests do not matter less only because they are not humans the premise above does not hold up.
- Is speciesism acceptable? Should it be endorsed?

My experience in an ACUC

- Animal protection society representation-disproportional.
- Lack of ethical debates – redirection to only methodological aspects.
- Following rules instead of critical thinking: do the minimum, loose the ethical point.
- Conflicting interests (researchers x animals).

Proposes/demands

- Animal users should necessarily undergo Bioethics and Animal Welfare training (by who?) – Educational policies.
- A qualification (certification) in these fields should be a precondition for ACUC members – CONCEA regulation.
- The proportion of animal users and animal interest advocates in the committees should be fair.