



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

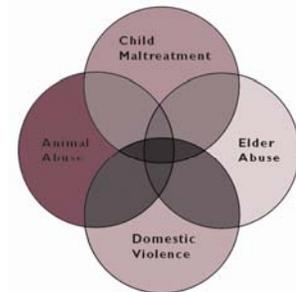
Working together to stop violence against people and animals

The LINK-Letter Vol. 5, No. 6 June 2012

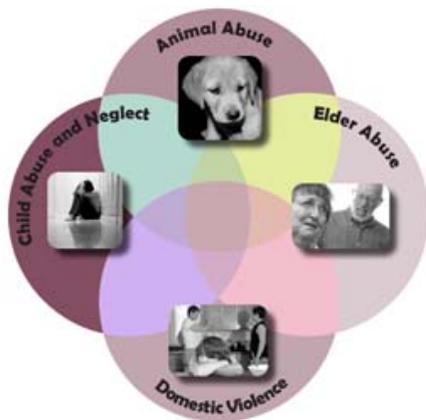
A monthly report of news about the connections between animal abuse and other forms of violence

www.nationallinkcoalition.org

[Phil Arkow](#), Editor



New Toolkit Available to Launch Local Coalitions



The National Link Coalition announces the publication of a handy Toolkit to help community organizations and interested individuals start a Link Coalition in their area.

The 32-page, full-color manual includes a seven-step process of identifying stakeholders in a Link Coalition, resolving logistical issues, scanning and analyzing community issues, responding to local needs, building in sustainability, and evaluating the Coalition's impact. Best practices, resources, case studies, and model programs are included.

Written by Phil Arkow and Randall Lockwood, the *Toolkit for Starting a Link Coalition in Your Community* features insights gained from 27 Link Coalitions across the U.S. and in three foreign countries.

"The National Link Coalition continually receives requests from individuals who want to start a program in their area to bring together the human services and animal protection organizations involved in the fight against family and community violence. We now have a handy document to

walk these groups through the process of starting and sustaining a local coalition. We are grateful to the many Coalition leaders whose insights helped up create this manual," said Arkow.

The Toolkit is available as a [free pdf download](#) in the "Resources" tab on the National Link Coalition website. Alternately, persons interested in purchasing printed and bound copies of the Toolkit may order them online for \$7.20 each (plus \$1.93 postage) from www.magcloud.com. Just enter "National Link Coalition" or "Link Coalition Toolkit" in the search box.

Social Workers Advance Interest in The Link

SWAHAB – [Social Workers Advancing the Human-Animal Bond](#) – is an interest group that meets monthly in New York City to share information, discuss cases, listen to speakers, encourage advocacy, and support the efforts of social workers addressing human-animal causes. Chaired by long-time advocate [Susan P. Cohen](#), SWAHAB explores the use of animals in therapy and the healthy integration of animals into urban life, especially housing. Other topics of ongoing interest include: working with veterinarians and clients on euthanasia decision, pet loss and compassion fatigue; assisting clients to find veterinary, legal and support services related to pets and assistance animals; and sensitizing police and social services agencies on the need to recognize and deal with animal abuse as a component of domestic violence. The group has a Facebook page, a Yahoo discussion group, and meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the New York City chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.



Susan Cohen heads SWAHAB

The Link Comes to Sweden



Members of the Link-Sweden organizing team gather during their planning sessions. From left, Eva Diesen and “Asta,” Carin Holmberg, Nathalie Nordén and “Jack,” and Stefan Villkatt take a break from their extensive training program.

Phil Arkow, National Link Coalition Coordinator, brought The Link to Sweden with a week’s worth of intensive training capped by an all-day seminar for 40 officials in veterinary medicine, animal welfare, victims’ services, domestic violence, law enforcement, journalism, social work, and prosecution. Sponsored by the Svenska Djurskyddsföreningen (Swedish Association for the Protection of Animals), the initiative was organized by VOOV (Veterinär Omtanke Om Våldsutsatta), a group of veterinary students who assist domestic violence victims with temporary housing for their pets. The group is actively working to foster collaboration and cooperation among numerous agencies, to translate Link materials into Swedish, to create a Link-Sweden program, and to integrate Link principles within Sweden’s social welfare, law enforcement and animal welfare systems.

“This was a fantastic opportunity to expand international momentum for The Link,” said Arkow. “We are continuing to see great interest in a variety of countries. Each country necessarily has different systems for investigating, prosecuting, and responding to various forms of family violence. However, the concepts behind The Link – that all these forms of violence are potentially interrelated, that animal abuse frequently predicts or indicates other violence, and that animal abuse needs to be considered as a serious crime – are the same in all cultures.”

VOOV Means “Woof” in Swedish... and also Veterinary Care for Victims of Domestic Abuse By Nathalie Nordén



In late 2008 a veterinary student named Jonna Fallhagen had a close friend in a relationship where she was abused. Jonna was desperate to help her but didn't know what to do. She figured that if she didn't know, other veterinary students didn't either. So she organized a discussion night at the student union in Uppsala, home to Sweden's only veterinary school. The local police, women's shelter and social services were invited and educated the students and some veterinarians attending. At one point the policeman described a woman who wouldn't leave her home as being like trying to get some really good wine out of a bottle when there was a cork stuck in the opening. The cork was the woman's dog and she wouldn't leave the abuser as long as she couldn't take her dog with her. The case frustrated the policeman a lot. Then a woman working at the women's shelter described the stress and anguish of the women and children at the shelter missing and fearing for what their pets might be going through with the abuser. The students did not know about this before and we felt that we could do something about this. So we signed our names and phone numbers and decided to help – it isn't that difficult to care for an extra animal for a few weeks or months. We got our first cat a few days later.

In early 2009 we became an official non-profit organization – [VOOV \(Veterinär Omtanke Om Våldsutsatta\)](#). Police and social workers helped us with safety routines. We got a grant from an animal welfare organization to build a dog pen. In 2010 we started getting media attention and people from across Sweden began to phone for help – not only domestic abuse survivors with pets needing to find shelters but also women's shelters and social workers from all across the country. After we received a call from Malmö we decided that VOOV was needed not only in Uppsala but also in other cities. Thanks to funding from [Allmänna Arvsfonden](#) VOOV now exists in Uppsala, Stockholm, Göteborg, Malmö, Skaraborg, Borlänge, and Jönköping. Year Two of the three-year project will bring VOOV to 6 more cities: Eskilstuna, Linköping, Sundsvall, Östersund, Halmstad, and Visby.

How a case usually works: A woman needing to flee to a shelter calls the shelter. The shelter works with VOOV and asks about the dog - age, sex, pregnant (we have gotten some surprises!), whether it can live with other pets and children, etc. VOOV calls the people who have agreed to be foster homes and asks if they are available. If someone is and agrees to this dog, VOOV calls back to the shelter and we wait for the woman to call again. When (if) she does, the dog is brought to a meeting place and VOOV signs a contract with the woman. The dog lives in a foster home and is reunited with its owner later.

National SAF-T Day to be Held October 6

This national event, to draw attention to women's shelters that have built on-site facilities for housing animals in order to be Sheltering Animals and Families Together™, originated in 2010. It is an opportunity for groups to stage fundraising dog walks and other community events to kick off National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Shelters interested in participating may contact [Allie Phillips](#) before Aug. 24 to register.

The Link in the Literature

Can a 9-Year-Old Be a Psychopath?

A recurring issue for therapists, service providers and court officials assessing and treating children who commit animal cruelty is whether such acts are motivated by psychopathic behavior. In a lengthy [New York Times Magazine](#) article on May 13, Jennifer Kahn explored the many dimensions of callous, unemotional children who do not act impulsively but rather are manipulative, calculating, and plan their behaviors cold-heartedly. Kahn quoted University of New Orleans psychologist Paul Frick who described a case of a boy who used a knife to cut off the tail of the family cat bit by bit, over a period of several weeks, and was proud of his serial amputations, which his parents initially failed to notice.

Callous, unemotional children show a mix of aggression, impulsivity, manipulateness and defiance, often overlapping other disorders. They display the unusual mixture of intelligence and coldness that characterizes adult psychopaths. They have learned to mimic empathy but show no remorse.

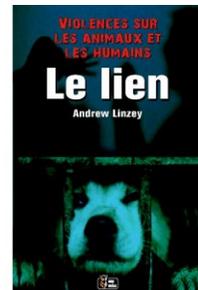
Kahn observed that psychopathy may be highly heritable, resulting in a child who is cold or callous being more likely to have a parent with a similar condition. Because parents do not necessarily bond to children who behave cruelly, these children tend to get punished more and nurtured less, creating a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Kahn also quoted Australian psychologist Mark Dadds who has written extensively about children's antisocial behaviors involving animal cruelty and who has developed a Cruelty to Animals Inventory.

-- Kahn, J. (2012, May 13). *Can you call a 9-year-old a psychopath?* *The New York Times Magazine*

Le Lien = The Link en Français

What is believed to be the first book on The Link in French has just been published in France. Andrew Linzey's 2009 compilation of essays, *The Link Between Animal Abuse and Human Violence*, has been published in Paris by [One Voice](#). The French edition, *Violence sur les Animaux et les Humains: Le Lien*, is available for 25,00€. The book features 27 chapters written by 37 contributors



Incidence of The Link in Swedish Women's Shelters

In an informal survey of women's shelters in Sweden, feminist writer [Carin Holmberg](#) reported that volunteers in 40 (46%) of 87 responding shelters regularly ask incoming women whether there are any animals in the family; in 37 (43%) of the shelters children have reported animals being exposed to violence. In 69 (79%) of the shelters personnel saw connections between women being battered and animals being subjected to violence or mistreatment. 66 (76%) of the shelters stated that they had cases of women not leaving the batterer because they were worried about their animal's safety. No organized network of nonprofit or municipal agencies appears to be in place yet in Sweden to provide a social safety net for these animal victims. Respondents also observed differing attitudes toward animals among women who are immigrants; particular challenges caring for farm animals dislocated by domestic violence situations; and that violence against animals may not be as much of an issue if the animals are seen as the batterer's pets rather than the woman's or children's.

-- Holmberg, C. (2004). *Med Husbondens Röst (With Their Master's Voice)*. Göteborg, Sweden: Kabusa Böcker.

Screening for Animal Abuse and Neglect in Adult Protective Services

While the development of screening protocols for animal abuse in child maltreatment and domestic violence scenarios has developed sporadically, similar procedures in adult protective services (APS) programs are still in relative infancy. Few programs identify animal care and control personnel as potential informants about elder abuse, the positive and negative impacts of pets in the lives of APS clients, or the incidence of animal abuse occurring in the context of animal abuse. In this article, Terry Peak, Frank R. Ascione and Jylisa Doney surveyed state APS officials about their experiences, if any, with this topic. The resulting national survey reported the most common pet-related concerns were: an elder's inability to manage his/her pets; elders spending money on their pets instead of themselves; and the lack of safe places for pets to stay during disasters or emergencies. The results indicate that appropriate assessment of animal abuse in the context of elder abuse might enhance understanding of the maltreatment of older adults and associated pet welfare issues, and that unaddressed animal-related concerns present obstacles to responding appropriately to the needs of vulnerable older adults.

-- Peak, T., Ascione, F.R., & Doney, J. (2012). Adult protective services and animal welfare: Should animal abuse and neglect be assessed during adult protective services screening? *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 24(1), 37-49.

Correction

In the May *LINK-Letter* we referred to two recent studies examining the potential predictive value of childhood acts of animal cruelty on later violence. We inadvertently published the wrong citations. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion. The correct citations should be:

Hensley, C., Tallichet, S.E., & Dutkiewicz, E.L. (2012). The predictive value of childhood animal cruelty methods on later adult violence: Examining demographic and situational correlates. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 56(2), 281-295.

Overton, J.C., Hensley, C., & Tallichet, S.E. (2012). Examining the relationship between childhood animal cruelty motives and recurrent adult violent crimes toward humans. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 27(5), 899-915.

A related article is now also available:

Hensley, C., Tallichet, S.E., & Dutkiewicz, E.L. (2012). Exploring the age of onset and recurrence of childhood animal cruelty: Can animal cruelty be learned from witnessing others commit it? *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 56(4), 615-627.

AVMA Looking for a Few Good People

The American Veterinary Medical Association's Human-Animal Bond Committee is being reconstituted as the Steering Committee on Human-Animal Interactions. AVMA is seeking four individuals to serve with the following criteria: two experts on how human-animal attachments impact animal well-being; one expert on how human-animal attachments impact human well-being; and one expert on human-animal attachment. Nomination forms are available from [Emily Patterson-Kane](#), Animal Welfare Scientist. The deadline for nominations is Aug. 6.



Juvenile Offenders, Cross-Reporting and Animal Cruelty: RSPCA Releases Statistics



The [2011 annual report](#) from the Prosecutions Department of Great Britain's Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals reveals some intriguing findings concerning the incidence and type of animal abuse perpetrated by youths. According to figures, 46 juveniles – mostly males aged 15 to 17 – were involved in cruelty cases. Only 24% of them expressed remorse for their actions. One half of the defendants had prior convictions for a variety of serious offenses including assault, robbery and arson. Only two had prior convictions for crimes involving animals.

Most offenses were for physical abuse rather than neglect. Some cases were especially savage: a pregnant sheep stabbed to death with a pitchfork, a pregnant hedgehog beaten to death with a bicycle chain, and ducks stoned to death. Most of the offenses occurred in group settings, rather than individually, due to group pressure and fear of alienation. Most incidents occurred in urban areas and during the warmer months. Crimes fueled by alcohol abuse were described as being particularly horrific.

The RSPCA noted an optimistic finding: many of the offenses were reported to the RSPCA by the youths' peers using their mobile phones. "After collecting mostly somber statistics for this research, it was refreshing to see a lot of young people who understand that animal cruelty cannot be tolerated and are willing to stand up for animals," the report noted.

In 2011, the RSPCA received 159,759 complaints about animal welfare, of which 2,018 were prosecuted. 1,341 defendants, including 24 juvenile offenders, were convicted and 74 received prison sentences.

The RSPCA has a cross-reporting program with the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. RSPCA Senior Prosecutions Case Manager [Phil Wilson](#) tells *The LINK-Letter* that social services and NSPCC agents reported 600 cases to the RSPCA in 2008, the last year for which figures are available, and that RSPCA inspectors reported 46 report of suspected child maltreatment to social services in 2011, a figure which may not include all such reports due to computer errors.

Link Serves as Basis for South African Humane Education Program



[South African teens tend a food garden in a Link-based empathy curriculum.](#)

A sprawling township mired in poverty and gender violence north of Johannesburg is the venue for an environmental awareness program that uses The Link to teach children to care. The two-hours-a-week program teaches tolerance and respect and molds youngsters into ambassadors who can identify and fight abuse.

"If you are going to abuse animals, it's the same as abusing a person so stop bullying animals," said one of the teenaged participants.

"The link between domestic violence and animal abuse and child abuse is very strong. By teaching the children morals and empathy, it sensitizes the children," Wilma Blakeway of Women and Men Against Child Abuse told the [South African Broadcasting Corp.](#)

New Zealand Veterinarians Mulling Domestic Violence Response



Veterinarians in New Zealand have long had policies in place to respond to animal abuse: since 1998 their Code of Professional Conduct has required practitioners to take action to ensure that animals suffering unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress are effectively dealt with, and to report such incidents to inspectors if the situation is not remedied. But as with veterinarians in other countries, veterinarians in New Zealand are less comfortable responding to cases of human violence. A 2008 article in the [New Zealand Veterinary Journal](#) reported that 63% of practitioners had seen deliberate animal abuse: of these, 16% either knew of or suspected human abuse within the animals' families. A clear majority of veterinarians agreed with the statement that animal abusers are more likely to abuse their children (77%) or spouse (70%).

Meanwhile, a landmark study by the New Zealand SPCA (*See April 2012 LINK-Letter*) reported that one in three women delayed leaving violent relationships because they feared their pets would be killed or tortured, and one-quarter said their children had witnessed violence against animals.

Recognizing the potential for veterinarians to become aware of domestic violence issues in their practices, the New Zealand Veterinary Council has undertaken to address this difficult area by developing guidelines that will both inform practitioners about animal abuse and domestic violence and assist them with dealing with the issue. A [working group was convened](#) on April 12.

The veterinary association has also been asked to participate in a meeting with Rural Women New Zealand to consider providing support networks for rural women who have been subject to domestic violence, but who also have concerns about leaving animals behind that may themselves be vulnerable to abuse.

The Link in the Legislatures



KENTUCKY: HB 233 which would have allowed the court to direct the care, custody or control of any pet belonging to either party or a minor child in the household, died in the Senate Judiciary Committee when the legislature adjourned.



MASSACHUSETTS - S682, which would include pets in protection orders, has been referred to the Joint Committee on the Judiciary.



OHIO - H25, which would include animals in domestic violence and anti-stalking protection orders, passed the House and has gone to the Senate Judiciary/Criminal Justice Committee. The bill would also increase penalties for animal cruelty, and include provisions for psychological assessment and counseling for animal abusers.

CROSS-REPORTING



KANSAS: HB 2533, which would have added animal control officers as professionals mandated to report suspected child abuse, cleared the House but died in the Senate Judiciary Committee when the Legislature adjourned for the year.

The Link in the News

Canadian Animal Cruelty Suspect in Grisly Killing Captured in Germany



Luka Rocco Magnotta was sought in the death of a Montreal man whose torso was found in a suitcase. The victim's hands and feet were mailed to politicians.

An international manhunt for a 29-year-old porn actor, sought in connection with a grisly homicide and dismemberment of a student whose body parts were mailed to Canadian political officials, ended in Germany when Luka Rocco Magnotta was captured in a café in Berlin. Magnotta, also known as Eric Clinton Newman and Vladimir Romanov, has also been questioned in the posting of earlier online videos depicting animal cruelty.

The [Canadian Broadcasting Corp.](#) had reported that Magnotta might have fled Canada to a foreign location. Police believe the body parts belong to Jun Lin, a Montreal student whose brutal murder by a naked man armed with an ice pick, dismemberment and sexual abuse were posted online. Magnotta was earlier suspected of uploading a video of a kitten being fed to a python: two days after a British newspaper published an interview in which he denied killing the kitten, the newspaper received an e-mail that read, "Next time you hear from me it will be in a movie I am producing that will have some humans in it, not just pussies.... Once you kill and taste blood it's impossible to stop."

Magnotta was also accused of filming himself suffocating two kittens and posting the video to the Internet, but he has denied those allegations. He reportedly has posted photos and comments on a blog site entitled Necrophilia Serial Killer, and claimed that someone had killed his dog.

A transsexual who was his former lover described him as being manipulative, a liar with a short fuse and self-destructive. Another former lover said Magnotta had two personalities: one quiet and reserved, the other fame-seeking and obsessed with serial killers.

"It's not cool to the world being a necrophiliac. It's bloody lonely," he reportedly wrote.

Man Charged with Sawing Off Cat's Paw Linked to Domestic Incidents

The St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office charged a Florissant, MO with animal abuse on April 23 after the Humane Society of Missouri reported that he sawed off a cat's injured paw. Avry Harris, 33 was charged with purposely causing injury or suffering to a cat named Trigger. The incident was alleged to have occurred sometime between May 11, 2011 and Jan. 10, 2012. According to [Missouri court records](#), Harris' wife, Tawanna, filed for divorce on Nov. 15, which was granted on April 25. Harris had also been charged on January 17 with stalking for violating a protection-from-abuse order. The cruelty case was scheduled for trial on June 5.



Avry Harris

LINK TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Coming Soon to a City Near You...

FIVE LINK PROGRAMS AT NCADV CONFERENCE

National Link Coalition members will present two Workshops, two Strategy Sessions, and a half-day Institute at the 2012 conference of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, July 23-25 in Denver, CO. Topics are: Kids & Critters in Shelters," "Practical Strategies for Serving Survivors with Pets," "Issues of Safe Havens," "Sheltering Animals and Families Together," and "Working Together: Linking Communities for the Prevention of Family Violence." Speakers will include Phil Arkow, Diane Balkin, Marcie Foster, Amy Fristoe, Maya Gupta, Jane Hunt, Randy Lockwood, Anna Melbin, Allie Phillips, and Kath Schoen. Register at <http://www.ncadv.org/>.

June 14 – Piscataway, NJ: Phil Arkow will give the keynote address on animal abuse and domestic violence, and a workshop on building community anti-violence coalitions, at the New Jersey Association of Domestic Violence Professionals' annual conference for the [New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women](#).

June 20 – San Diego, CA: Allie Phillips will train on The Link at the National District Attorneys Association's Career Prosecutors Course.

June 27 – Ft. Leavenworth, KS: Phil Arkow will conduct a training on The Link for the Ft. Leavenworth Army Community Service [Family and Morale/Welfare/Recreation](#) program.

June 28 – (online): Joshua Marquis, District Attorney for Clatsop County, OR, will present a free webinar on "Challenges of Prosecuting Equine Neglect Cases" in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

July 11 – (Online): Allie Phillips will conduct a webinar on "Children Exposed to Animal Abuse" for the [National Children's Alliance](#).

July 16 – (online): Geoff Fleck, Criminal Justice Program Contract Attorney for the Animal Legal Defense Fund, will present a free webinar on "Trial Strategies in Animal Cruelty Prosecutions" in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the ALDF.

July 17 – Philadelphia, PA: Phil Arkow will conduct a training on the implications of animal abuse for child welfare workers for the [Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services](#).

July 20 – Mystic, CT: Allie Phillips will present at the National District Attorneys Association's Board of Directors meeting on animal abuse and its important connections to violence against people.

July 30 & 31 (online): Allie Phillips will conduct two webinars on SAF-T™ – Sheltering Animals and Families Together – for the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence.

Aug. 2 – Orlando, FL: Allie Phillips will present on “Caught in the Cross Fire: When the Abuse of Animals Co-Occurs with Family Violence” at the [Florida Crimes Against Kids](#) conference.

Aug. 4 – San Diego, CA: Randy Lockwood will discuss veterinarians’ recognizing and responding to animal hoarding at the annual conference of the [American Veterinary Medical Association](#).

Aug. 23 – (online): Joel Lopez, Sr., Manager of Operations, Field Investigations and Response for the ASPCA, will present a free webinar on “Planning for a Large-Scale Seizure” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Sept. 14 – Chesterfield, MO: Phil Arkow and Heddie Leger will present a workshop on “Women’s Best Friend: Social Work and the Domestic Violence/Animal Abuse Link” for the [Missouri Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers](#) annual Training institute.

Sept. 20 – (online): Dr. Randy Lockwood, Senior V.P. of Forensic Sciences and Anti-Cruelty Projects for the ASPCA, will present a free webinar on “Combating Animal Cruelty: The Past, Present and Future” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Sept. 21 – Saskatoon, SK, Canada: Dr. Robert Reisman of the ASPCA will present on veterinary forensics in the investigation of animal cruelty at the conference of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.

Sept. 28 – Saskatoon, SK, Canada: Randy Lockwood will discuss “Prosecuting Animal Hoarding: When, Why and How” at the [Saskatchewan SPCA](#) Animal Welfare Conference.

Oct. 11 – Lawrenceville, NJ: Phil Arkow will train [New Jersey Child Assault Prevention Project](#) representatives on “The Links between Child Assault and Animal Abuse.”

Oct. 14 – Jacksonville, FL: Phil Arkow will discuss the links between animal cruelty and child maltreatment at Prevent Child Abuse America’s [National Conference for America’s Children](#).

Oct. 16 – (online): Diane Balkin of the Animal Legal Defense Fund will present a free webinar on “Anticipating Defenses in Animal Abuse Cases” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Nov. 14-17 – Chicago, IL: Nuria Querol i Vinas will present on “Cruelty to Animals and Antisocial Personality Disorders: Criminological and Forensic Correlations” at the [American Society of Criminology](#) conference.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL LINK COALITION



The National Link Coalition is an informal, multi-disciplinary collaborative network of individuals and organizations in human services and animal welfare who address the intersections between animal abuse, domestic violence, child maltreatment and elder abuse through research, public policy, programming and community awareness. We believe that human and animal well-being are inextricably intertwined and that the prevention of family and community violence can best be achieved through partnerships representing multi-species perspectives.

OUR VISION: The Link between violence against humans and violence against animals is widely known and understood. We believe that through the recognition and integration of this understanding into policies and practices nationwide, humans and animals will be measurably safer.

Members of the National Link Coalition Steering Committee:

<u>Phil Arkow</u>	Consultant, ASPCA; Animals and Society Institute; Chair, Animal Abuse & Family Violence Prevention Project, The Latham Foundation, Stratford, N.J.
<u>Lesley Ashworth</u>	Founder/President, American Veterinary Charitable Fund, Worthington, Ohio
<u>Barbara W. Boat, Ph.D.</u>	Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine Executive Director, Childhood Trust, Cincinnati Children's Hospital
<u>Maya Gupta, Ph.D.</u>	Executive Director, Ahimsa House, Inc., Atlanta, Ga.
<u>Jane A. Hunt</u>	Violence Prevention Specialist, St Paul, Minn.
<u>Mark Kumpf, CAWA</u>	Past President, National Animal Control Association, Dayton, Ohio
<u>Randall Lockwood, Ph.D.</u>	Senior Vice President, Forensic Sciences and Anti-Cruelty Projects, ASPCA, Falls Church, Va.
<u>Anna Melbin, MSW, MPP</u>	Director of Network Growth & Strategy, The Full Frame Initiative Founder, Catalyst Consulting & Training, Yarmouth, Maine
<u>Maria Luisa O'Neill</u>	Program Services Coordinator, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Denver, Colo.
<u>Emily Patterson-Kane, Ph.D.</u>	Animal Welfare Scientist, Animal Welfare Division, American Veterinary Medical Association, Schaumburg, Ill.
<u>Allie Phillips, J.D.</u>	Director, National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse Deputy Director, National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse National District Attorneys Association, Alexandria, Va.
<u>Chris Risley-Curtiss, MSSW, Ph.D.</u>	Associate Professor and Animal-Human Interactions Coordinator, School of Social Work, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ
<u>Pam Russell</u>	Policy Analyst, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Reno, Nev.
<u>Barbara Shaffer, MSW, LCSW</u>	Senior Director of Chapter Services, Prevent Child Abuse America, Breckenridge, Colo.
<u>Kathleen Schoen</u>	Director, Family Violence Program, Colorado Bar Association Colorado Alliance for Cruelty Prevention, Denver, Colo.
<u>Hugh Tebault III</u>	President, The Latham Foundation, Alameda, Calif.
<u>Philip Tedeschi, MSSW, LCSW</u>	Clinical Director, Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work, Denver, Colo.