

enough
propaganda!

The Government of Canada's DFO (Department of Fisheries and Oceans) has launched a major propaganda campaign to convince the public that the commercial Seal Hunt is humane. That is false.

This brochure gives you the facts on this issue as they pertain to myths created by Canada's government.

Each of these facts is backed by irrefutable proof and documented scientific data.

**HERE ARE
THE
FACTS...**

PLEASE HELP US STOP THIS CRIME AGAINST NATURE!

Support these organizations that have active programs to end the Seal Hunt in Canada:

AMEDEA Mexico
Animal Friends Croatia
ARAN
Atlantic Canadian Anti Sealing Coalition
Empathia Poland
Friends of Animals Slovakia
Harpseals.org
International Anti Fur Coalition
Irish Seal Sanctuary
Irish SPCA
Scandinavian Anti Sealing Coalition
VIVA Poland
Western Canada Anti Sealing Coalition

Check our website for more information about the CATCA international seal campaign and Seal Tours' in Europe, which played a major role in achieving the E.U. ban on the import trade of seal products...

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL SEAL HUNT:

myth
vs.
FACT



Does this seem right to YOU?



CATCA



CAMPAIGNS AGAINST THE CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
a proud member of the Western Canada Anti Sealing Coalition

www.catcahelpanimals.org

myth vs. FACT:

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL SEAL HUNT

"Seals need to be culled because of overpopulation"

There is no scientific data to support this unsubstantiated claim made by the DFO in a vain effort to justify this slaughter. Seal populations are a fraction of what they were before commercial sealing began.

"Seals are killed humanely"

That is not true. The baby seals feel extreme pain, yet despite our pleas for compassion they are either bashed over the head by a spiked club or shot. Because their brains are so small seals are difficult to kill with a single blow or bullet, and many blows are often needed to render a seal unconscious. A panel of veterinarians has documented that up to 42% of these baby seals are skinned alive and therefore subject to excruciating pain.

"Baby seals pups are not killed, only adults"

98.5% of the seals killed in the commercial seal hunt are pups less than 2 months old. In 1985 a law was passed which prohibited the slaughter of "white coats"; however, as soon as a seal starts to moult (normally 2 weeks after birth), it is legal to slaughter them.

"The commercial seal hunt brings economic benefits"

The seal slaughter is not economically viable, as the cost to conduct the hunt is deemed to far exceed revenues. While the seal slaughter earned up to 5% of a sealer's income in the past, in recent years this has been less than 1%. Sealing is an insignificant industry, accounting for a scant 0.08% of Newfoundland's GDP.

"Seals eat too many fish, especially cod"

Scientists have proven that 97% of a seal's diet is fish other than cod, many of these being predators that feed on young cod. Removing seals from this ecosystem will increase the number of predators which means less cod! More seals have always meant more cod.

"Much of the seal is utilized"

Only the skin is taken. The seal's body is left to rot on the ice floes. Slaughtering seals serves only one purpose: VANITY. The omega oil derived from seals contains PCBs, DDT and mercury and is not considered safe for consumption.

"Seal populations are healthy"

The DFO claims that seal populations are "three times what they were in the 70's." What the DFO does not tell you is that the annual kill quotas were (and still are) so high, that it has seriously affected the population which was many times higher before commercial sealing began. On top of that global warming is decimating the infant seals on the Atlantic side of Canada.



"Sealing is an important tradition"

The Canadian commercial seal hunt is the largest slaughter of marine mammals on earth. Each spring, hundreds of men carrying rifles or spiked clubs invade the harp, hooded and gray seal nurseries, clubbing and shooting baby seals who are barely weaned and lay helpless and defenseless on the ice.

If this is tradition, the majority of Canadians - along with the global community - believe that it is a brutal, senseless and bloody "tradition" that needs to end.

Despite our pleas for compassion for these animals, the cruel commercial seal slaughter continues. Seal pups are being killed by the hundreds of thousands! Our government has been spending millions of dollars in Europe and the WTO (from our own taxpayers' money), defending Canada's seal hunt.

Just a few months ago the EU (European Union) banned the import trade of seal products, damaging the cruel seal industry. Proudly, CATCA's international campaign efforts in Europe during 2007-2009 played a major role in achieving this goal.