



There's
NOTHING FUN about the life of a
circus animal

Animals used in circuses are not entertainers by choice, and only perform their "acts" because they must obey their trainers or suffer painful beatings with whips, bull hooks, choke collars, chains and electric prods.

Crammed into narrow trailers, animals in circuses suffer further from being on the road 48 – 50 weeks out of the year. Between performances, many animals are crowded together in cages, and elephants are often tethered to the ground with chains. Constant confinement and beatings cause animals severe physical and psychological stress, and sometimes result in their death.

"I was able to see what I call the systematic daily abuse, I was able to see the hitting of the elephants, I saw elephants hooked with the bull hook so much that they bled. I have seen scars behind the ears that you could stick your finger into."

-Tom Rider, former circus employee

What you can do:

- Boycott circuses that use animals and educate your friends and family about what happens behind the scenes of the circus industry.
- Attend animal-free circuses such as Cirque du Soleil and the New Pickle Family Circus that feature astounding acrobats, aerialists, and jugglers.
- If a circus that uses animals comes to your area, contact IDA for more flyers, children's coloring books, and background information in that specific circus.



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