Colombia moves to protect children from violence against animals

Colombia has become the latest country to ban bullfighting, as part of a cultural shift away from violence.

Colombian President Gustavo Petro announced the ban as a victory for both children and animals: **"Death will no longer be a show"**, he said.

https://historica.world/colombias-ban-on-bullfighting-a-shift-in-cultural-tradition-and-ethical-priorities/
https://worldanimalnews.com/colombia-makes-history-by-banning-bullfighting-a-triumph-for-animal-welfare/

Member of Colombia's House of Representatives, Alexandra Vasques tweeted: **"it is a great step to end torture disguised as culture."**

Member of Colombia's House of Representatives, Alejandro Garcia Rios said: **"the world is undergoing a cultural transformation, according dignity for all living beings."**

Animal Voice asked South African leaders for their views on GC26:35

No child may be exposed to violence against an animal…

Dr Julie Reddy,
Deputy Chair of the South African National Commission for UNESCO:

"If we teach our children at a very young age about care and respect for *other*… it doesn't matter who they are or what they are… respect for the diversity that we find ourselves in, we will be a much, much better country and we will learn compassion."
– Pretoria 15 April 2024

Christina Nomdo,
SA Children's Commissioner for the Western Cape:

"As a society, we are challenged by deep cultural norms that include harmful practices against animals. We need to counter all practices that involve the abuse of animals. So, it is not only about working with children but, in addition, it is about confronting the adults who introduce children to these practices and 'normalise' them in the minds of our children. This is the harm."

Paul Hoffman SC,
Director of the Institute for Accountability in Southern Africa:

"The rights of children receive special mention in Section 28 of the Bill of Rights, namely:
A child's best interests are of paramount importance in every matter concerning the child [ss (2)]
The likelihood of trauma, upset, discombobulation and distress through exposure to violence against animals is clearly not conducive to serving the best interests of children."
www.accountabilitynow.org.za

View our presentation to UNESCO Africa here: