

1. Introduction

- a. How many: think zoos effective, care about animals?
- b. No matter what side - agree animal conservation increasingly important
 - i. Know not all zoos good or safe, only keep good ones
- c. Been to both good and bad zoos, Madison yearly
- d. Zoos beneficial for many reasons
- e. Not good conservation, inadequate education, unsafe/unsanitary

First,

1. Zoos are not good at conservation

- a. James Borrell - conservation biologist
 - i. Currently 39 animals only alive in captivity
 - 1. Can't reintroduce until cause fixed
 - 2. Insurance populations - guarantee survival of existing species in case
 - ii. Learn about them in captivity - understand wild behaviors
 - 1. Raise money for conservation
 - 2. Reminder that we can have success - conservation often bad news
- b. Karlyn Marcy, Association of Zoos and Aquariums
 - i. California Condors
 - 1. 1982 - 22 in wild, 1985, 9 in wild
 - 2. 1987 - work with San Diego Zoo and California Department of Natural Resources, now population at 400 with 240 in the wild
 - ii. 2019 - organization and members spent \$230 million on conservation in 127 countries
 - 1. Education, monitoring, reintroduction
 - 2. Zoos can't do everything on own, help in many ways

Thing zoos can do

1. Zoos do not provide adequate education

- a. Scientific Research (ProCon.org - nonpartisan through Britannica)
 - i. 1993-2017 - 228 accredited zoos published 5175 peer reviewed manuscripts
 - ii. 2017 - 173 US zoos spent \$25 million on research
 - 1. Spreading of diseases (animals and people)
 - 2. Very limited research regarding zoo's impacts on animals
 - a. Could be true
 - b. Major study found was only on 35 animals - more info needed, should be addressed if true (about enclosures)

- b. Children Learn (National Geographic James Draven)
 - i. Zoological director - zoos “inspiring the conservationists of tomorrow”
 - ii. Difficult to show learning occurred

Other important factors

- 2. Zoos are unsafe, unsanitary, etc
 - a. KQED - PBS Derek Lartaud
 - i. Short for “zoological park”
 - 1. Allow people to understand wild animals not native to their area
 - 2. Meant to be clean and educational for all
 - ii. HOWEVER: Not all clean/well-staffed, harm to animals
 - 1. Need to have fewer zoos
 - 2. Stricter regulations
 - b. Thoet, PBS - zoos that follow good practices, solutions
 - i. Association of Zoos and Aquariums
 - 1. 8 month accreditation process, gold standard of safety (2017 stats)
 - a. 146 “animal incidents” occurred at accredited locations in US - mostly natural sickness and aging
 - b. 118 animals deaths - 10 due to human error
 - 2. 215 members caring for 750,000 animals and spending \$160 million on conservation per year
 - ii. Incidents of poaching - step up security
 - 1. Born Free - want all zoos to be accredited (no more illegal operations)
 - 2. Animal rights group - database to keep all organizations accountable (including not registered)

In conclusion

- 1. Closing
 - a. Zoos benefit world in many ways
 - b. Not good conservation, inadequate education, unsafe/unsanitary
 - c. May need fewer to ensure standards
 - i. WI law - in American Zoo and Aquarium Association OR keep records about animal movements - need more rules
 - d. Need to choose stance to most benefit animals