

The response reproduced below was submitted to the consultation held by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics on the ethics of research involving animals during October-December 2003. The views expressed are solely those of the respondent(s) and not those of the Council.

This response was submitted using the online facility:

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QUESTIONS ANSWERED:

1. Background: the use of animals in research

ANSWER:

I believe it is improper to use other sentient beings in research where they are denied their natural form of behaviour and when they suffer or their lives are terminated unnaturally.

2. Genetically modified animals

ANSWER:

I still think that any sentient beings should not be subjected to any form of suffering.

3. Alternatives

ANSWER:

All other alternatives should be considered and paid for by the research establishments concerned.

4. Ethical issues

ANSWER:

All sentient beings have the same right to life as have all humans. Just living with companion animals shows that they have feelings, emotions and needs very similar to our own.