

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Rodeos must be banned. With every rodeo, the animals experience pain and suffering at the expense of the peoples' entertainment. The steer used in these events are subjected to painful and cruel methods to get them to come out of the gate kicking the way they do; methods such as putting pepper in their noses or eyes, tying straps tightly around their abdomens, electric shocks and sharp metal spurs worn by the riders that are used to dig into the animals' sides. Steer that are being wrestled to the ground by twisting their necks and calves that are violently jerked to a stop with ropes around their necks can cause neck and spinal injury in addition to the fear and distress they endure. Animals can suffer from broken ribs, legs, necks and internal organ damage. Riders can experience head concussions, fractures and gore wounds. The injury rate to riders in bull riding is much higher than in football. When the animals are too old or injured, they may be sent to slaughterhouses. It's time to stop this abusive treatment of animals and ban rodeos.