



Title / Keyword		Journal	Animals	Volume	
Author		Section	--	Issue	
Article Type	all	Special Issue	all	Page	
				Clear	Search

Animals

Volume 2, Issue 4

Article Versions

[Abstract](#)[Full-Text PDF \[57 KB\]](#)[Full-Text XML](#)[Article Versions Notes](#)

Related Info

[Article Statistics](#)[Google Scholar](#)[Order Reprints](#)

Citation

[Cite this article](#)[Export to BibTeX](#)[Export to EndNote](#)

More by Authors

[\[+\] on DOAJ](#)[\[+\] on Google Scholar](#)[\[+\] on PubMed](#)

Share This Article

[CiteULike](#)[Facebook](#)[Mendeley](#)[Twitter](#)*Animals* **2012**, *2*(4), 628–639; doi:[10.3390/ani2040628](#)[OPEN ACCESS](#)

Article

Animal Sentence: Where Are We and Where Are We Heading?**Helen Proctor**

World Society for the Protection of Animals, 222 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8HB, UK

Received: 16 October 2012; in revised form: 12 November 2012 / Accepted: 12 November 2012 / Published: 14 November 2012

[Download PDF Full-Text \[57 KB, uploaded 14 November 2012 10:42 CET\]](#)

Simple Summary: Animal sentence refers to the ability of animals to experience pleasurable states such as joy, and aversive states such as pain and fear (Broom, D.M. *Dis. Aquat. Org.* **2007**, *75*, 99–108). The science of animal sentence underpins the entire animal welfare movement. Demonstrating objectively what animals are capable of is key to achieving a positive change in attitudes and actions towards animals, and a real, sustainable difference for animal welfare. This paper briefly summarises understanding of animal sentence through the ages. There follows a review of the current state of animal sentence, and concluding thoughts on its future in regards to animal welfare.

Abstract: The science of animal sentence underpins the entire animal welfare movement. Demonstrating objectively what animals are capable of is key to achieving a positive change in attitudes and actions towards animals, and a real, sustainable difference for animal welfare. This paper briefly summarises understanding and acceptance of animal sentence through the ages. Although not an exhaustive history, it highlights some of the leading figures whose opinions and work have most affected perspectives of animal sentence. There follows a review of the current state of animal sentence, what is known, and what the main limitations have been for the development of the study of sentence. The paper concludes with some thoughts for the future of the science, and where it should be going in order to most benefit animal welfare.

Keywords: advocacy; animal welfare; anthropomorphism; cognition; consciousness; sentence

Article Statistics[Click here to load and display the download statistics.](#)**Cite This Article****MDPI and ACS Style**Proctor, H. Animal Sentence: Where Are We and Where Are We Heading? *Animals* **2012**, *2*, 628–639.**AMA Style**Proctor H. Animal Sentence: Where Are We and Where Are We Heading? *Animals*. 2012; 2(4):628–639.**Chicago/Turabian Style**Proctor, Helen. 2012. "Animal Sentence: Where Are We and Where Are We Heading?" *Animals* 2, no. 4: 628–639.[Animals](#)

EISSN 2076-2615

Published by MDPI AG, Basel, Switzerland

[RSS](#)[E-Mail Table of Contents Alert](#)[Terms & Conditions](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Contact MDPI](#) [Payment Information](#) [Jobs at MDPI](#)

© 1996–2013 MDPI AG (Basel, Switzerland) unless otherwise stated