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Exotic Animals Aren't Pets Essay

Do you have a pet? Do you ever ponder about how other people own different kinds of pets? Some of these unusual pets include bamboos, tigers, snakes, and any other exotic animals that aren't domesticated. These exotic animals shouldn't be pets. Good for humanity is preferable than the dangers of the yen for these exotic creatures.

The public safety of the people is at risk from these exotic animals, and the deaths can be extremely violent. According to the text: "In 2009, a 2-year-old Florida girl was strangled by a 12-foot-long Burmese python, a family pet that had gotten out of its aquarium. That same year, a Connecticut woman was mauled and disfigured by a neighbor's pet chimp. Last year, a caretaker was mauled to death by a bear owned by a Cleveland collector." This is in accordance to my opinion. Note how the words "strangled" and "mauled and disfigured" show how violent deaths from these exotic animals can be. With a domesticated pet, this will definitely not happen. As babies these animals might look innocent and cute, but when they reach maturity they start being aggressive and grow really big. Chimps, reptiles, and wild felines grow to be really big and aggressive, so families can't take care of them. As a result, the animals are left outside, and anyone at the wrong time and place is a victim. The animals might even attack their own owner, which poses a risk to everybody.

Aside from public safety issues, there are also public health issues concerned with these exotic animals. As stated in the source: "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention discourages direct contact with wild animals for a simple reason: They can carry diseases that are dangerous to people, such as rabies, herpes B virus, and Salmonella." Exotic animals are notorious for carrying many diseases like Salmonella, herpes B, rabies, monkey pox, and bird flu. Macaque monkeys carry and spread herpes B. Salmonellosis is the most reported zoonotic disease (disease that is spread by exotic creatures that affect humans). There are 93,000 of these cases from reptiles like snakes, lizards, and turtles. It is mostly spread by 90% of reptilian feces. A short epidemic was made because of monkey pox from small mammals. In fact, you might even contract Ebola from great apes. There are just too many deaths from these diseases.

Lastly, the animals can also be victims. As stated in this opposing text: "Most exotic animals—such as big cats, bears or apes—are in commercial, federally inspected facilities. These animals are born in captivity, and not “stolen” from the wild." This argument is using language that the layman can't understand, or at least makes it look like it is an approved and good thing. However, she conveniently doesn't explain how they live in captivity and the effects it might have. The truth is, exotic animals just can't live in captivity. The creatures have higher stress levels because of this, which increases the probability of the previously stated violent attacks on humans. Also, there are a lot of people who abuse these animals and torture them. For example, the tragedy in Zanesville, Ohio was caused by Terry Thompson, who had criminal charges and animal abuse records. Also, it is not the type of environment they can live in, behind bars. And as also previously stated, families leave them, which makes their life hard.

In conclusion, although people find it enjoyable to have exotic pets, we all want good for both humanity and exotic creatures. Public safety, public health, and animal abuse concerns all point to exotic animals not being pets. Next time, if you want an exotic pet, think again.

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