

8 - Scientific Literacy and Socio-scientific Issues | Empirical

SP - (15738) - THE ROLE OF PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE PERCEPTION OF ANIMAL WELFARE: A STUDY WITH PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS

António Almeida (Portugal)¹; Rafael Sumozas (Spain)²

1 - Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa / CICS.NOVA, Universidade Nova de Lisboa; 2 - Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha / Grupo de investigación en Pedagogías Culturales (CREARI)

Short Abstract

The present study aims to check the perception of animal welfare in six different situations through the observation of photographs. For that, 194 pre-service primary school teachers (103 Portuguese and 91 Spanish) were inquired. To this end, two versions of the same questionnaire were administered, including for the same situation one photo intended to induce a more positive perception of the welfare of animals. The results of the two versions were compared in terms of the global sample and by country. In general, the animals confined in zoos or bird cages, but where bars were not observed, led to a better perception of the animal welfare. When the photos dealt with a situation about which the respondents had a very critical position, as it was the case of bullfighting, the framing of the photograph had no effect on the perception of animal welfare. The photos where human beings were interacting with animals induced different perceptions, depending on the situations presented. The results allow concluding that photographs can lead to a more or less critical perception of the animals' welfare, with an impact in the assessment of the quality of animals' lives. This conclusion emphasizes the need of a careful selection of the photos in school context, as the ones included in educational resources designed or selected by teachers and in textbooks. Implications of the present results for students of any cycle of schooling are also discussed.