

CAPTIVITY DOES NOT EQUAL CONSERVATION

Dolphins and whales, also known as cetaceans, are incredibly smart, social and complex creatures. They are self aware, meaning that when they are looking in a mirror they know they are seeing themselves reflected back. The dolphin's brain has emotional and cognitive abilities similar to our own. According to Dr. Lori Marino, a leading researcher in whale and dolphin brain anatomy, "It may be that many cetacean species have achieved a level of social-emotional sophistication not achieved by other animals, including humans". For too many years the captivity industry has been ignoring the scientific facts about the animals they keep hostage in their tanks. It is time we make them acknowledge the complexities, emotions and intelligence of cetaceans.



Empty the Tanks



EMPTY THE TANKS

WWW.EMPTYTHETANKS.ORG

THERE'S
NO BEAUTY
IN STOLEN
FREEDOM



EXPLOITATION NOT EDUCATION

Although marine parks and aquariums would have you believe that their main objective is to educate the public, there is no evidence supporting they are truly educating anyone. There is no educational benefit from seeing an animal in a captive setting. The dolphins and whales in tanks are not eating, socializing, reproducing, exercising, or behaving naturally. Everything you see at a marine park or aquarium is a forced behavior. Parks and trainers give out false and misleading information during their shows and tours. For example, visitors are told that orcas in captivity live just as long if not longer than orcas in the wild. The truth is that wild orcas live much longer than those suffering in captivity. Trainers during shows will also attempt to explain away the reason for the collapsed dorsal fin of male orcas. The reality is that 100% of captive male orcas have a collapsed dorsal fin. The lack of activity and exposure to the sun is the cause for this unnatural occurrence. These are not facts that the captivity industry wants you to know about. For more information about the truth behind the captivity of dolphins and whales please visit

www.emptythetanks.org



BLOOD IN THE WATER

Every year between September and March, in the small fishing town of Taiji off the coast of Japan, dolphins & small whales are subjected to a horrific fate. A small group of local "fisherman" brutally drive entire dolphin families into a small cove. Once in the cove mothers and babies are separated, young attractive dolphins are stolen and sold into the captivity trade around the world, and the remaining family members are brutally slaughtered for human consumption.

Considering that a trained live dolphin sold internationally can fetch anywhere up to \$100,000 it is undeniable that the annual Taiji dolphin hunt in Japan and the lucrative multi billion dollar captivity industry are directly linked. When you buy a ticket to a dolphin show or pay for a swim with dolphin encounter you are supporting and encouraging the Taiji atrocities to continue. You can help end the suffering of these gentle, sentient creatures by pledging to never buy a ticket to a dolphin show. Together we can be their voice. Together we are their only hope.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Empty the Tanks is not a radical movement demanding the release of all captive marine mammals into the wild. Some of these animals might be great candidates for release, but those that are not should be retired into sea pens, where they can enjoy the rest of their days in natural seawater, feeling the waves of the ocean around them. They should not be worked until their last breath is taken and then thrown out like trash and replaced.

Our Mission:

Using education and awareness to end cetacean captivity and promote ocean conservation worldwide.



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP DOLPHINS & WHALES!



HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:



Don't visit any marine park or aquarium that houses captive cetaceans.



Don't engage in any swim with dolphin activities while on vacation or holiday.



Encourage friends and family to watch Blackfish, The Cove and A Fall From Freedom.



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