Animal Rights Extremism (ARE):
A situation assessment on
Stop Huntington Animal Cruelty (SHAC)

- Based upon British a initiative
- Europol assessed on ARE/SHAC
- Most significant representative
- For the purpose of awareness
- Routine-Activity-Theory (RAT)

- The "math" of RATs
  motivated offender
  + suitable target
  + inefficient guardianship
  = crime setting

- Data gathering
- Source triangulation
- Macro perspective

- Disregarding judicial options vs. non-conformity to legal norms
- Progression from "saving the animal" to "stalking an industry"
- SHAC criminalised itself & motives departed from the original
- Motive refers to the reasoning for delinquent or criminal behaviour
- It serves satisfactory purposes...social change...personal fulfillment
- Motives can be evident as well as hidden, i.e. to avoid detection of it
- SHAC...a group being one institutional actor of great homogeneity

- Psychological concept of "Naming and Identity"
- SHAC declares on motive "Stop Animal Cruelty"
- SHAC declares on the prime target "Huntington"
- Identity evolved into a constant state of rebellion
- Against legal, social and economical standards

- Social movement ... the advocate of animal rights (Jonas)
  (Reinforced by past success, i.e. fox hunting in the UK)
- Social conflict...the unequal distribution of power (Marx)
  (Expressed through direct action and civil disobedience)
- Social change...a result of conflict of a movement (Weber)
"A TINY GROUP OF ACTIVISTS IS SUCCEEDING WHERE KARL MARX, THE BAADER-MEINHOF GANG AND THE RED BRIGADES FAILED"

- The Financial Times as quoted on the homepage of www.shac.net (26.01.07)
- Acceptance of a label of (left-wing) ideology, extremist and terrorist predecessors
- Advantage of the intimidation factor correlated to extremism and the ideology behind

- Conceptualised belief system to gain or maintain power
- Strong correlation between left-wing ideology and SHAC
- Anti-authoritarian, anti-capitalist & anti-establishment
- Agents of social control are the traditional opponents
- They maintain order and enforce law on behalf of "HSU"
- Synonym for an empowered and privileged social class

- SHAC is a "social institution" that meets human needs
- Recognition, significance, importance, individuality, etc.
- SHAC is a "commercialised campaign" to make ends meet
- Activists live off and for it, through the interdependencies
- Of funding, donations, merchandising & direct action
- A "social infrastructure" supports imprisoned activist &
- Lowers internal restrictions to offend for others further

1. Saving the animal
- Assumption of ethical and moral supremacy
- Own rights are elevated above those of others
2. Generating social change
- The way society is constructed is questioned
- Challenge of the sovereignty of the majority
3. Ideological agenda
- Manifestation of enemy pictures in a broader context
- Targeting the capital is a consequence of left-wing
4. Personal agenda
- Fulltime occupation for professional protesters
- Encouraged to disregard repression & deterrence

Today, HLS stands synonym for a horizontal range of targets!

- Value: quality targets
- Inertia: static targets
- Visibility: high public profile
- Access: virtual, electronic and physical
- Enable the horizontal targets to conduct their business directly
- Belong to the infrastructure and business relationships below

- Value: quantity targets
- Inertia: static targets
- Visibility: lower public profile
- Access: virtual, electronic and physical

- Victimization shifted from horizontal to vertical targets
- To effect the quality targets via the bypass of quantity
- Cut business relationships between the target levels
- Gains & keeps a momentum of control and surprise
- Through the quantity victimisation is unpredictable
- Trend of (cross-border) quantity victimisation continues
- The Internet is the "virtual battleground" of SHAC
Thank you!