

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The introductory comments by Karl Johan Öbrink to my paper were most welcome ("Classification System for Degree of Animal Harm", Scand. J. Lab. Anim. Sci., Vol. 13, No. 3, 1986, pages 93, 95 and 97). I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Professor Öbrink. He has had an important and widespread influence on improving the review of animal experiments for humane concerns. As noted in the article, the classification system used by the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare was inspired initially by the classification system developed in Sweden. When Professor Öbrink attended a 1981 conference organized by the Scientists Center in Washington, D.C., he brought

with him the Swedish classification system and it made a great impact on the scientists who attended. Since then, its use has spread throughout the U.S.

I share Professor Öbrink's regret that Sweden has abandoned the classification system. But I believe this will be only temporary since there appears to be a trend internationally to incorporate the classification concept into national policies governing animal experiments. We are indebted to Professor Öbrink for his pioneering work.

Yours sincerely,

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