

Dear Committee Members -

I have a 2 year old son; he is currently transitioning through the, 'What's that, mummy?' phase. He is an intelligent, inquisitive, amazing child of wonder - exploring everything in the world around him - wanting to know all. I work at Victoria's Werribee Open Range Zoo - when my son comes to visit, it saddens me when I have to answer my son's questions of 'What's that, mummy?' with a response such as, 'That is a very rare animal called the Simitar Horned Oryx - it's a very special animal because there are not many left in the world. We are very privileged to be seeing one here - I hope you will be able to still see them when you are a grown up...'

There are some animals, such as the Simitar Horned Oryx that we unfortunately have to resign ourselves to the fact that they are on the brink of extinction - and if saving them is not a possibility, at least learning and preserving all we can about them is of paramount importance. PLEASE DO NOT be the cause of orang-utans becoming a devastating addition to this list. We all have the power to make a wrong right here - you have the voice. Empower the people to also have a voice by having a choice as to what they choose to accept in their foods - give them the voice to say 'No' to Palm Oil, or in the very least the enlightenment of knowing what they are choosing to use and the effects it will have on the very world around them - including the world left behind for our children.

On behalf of my 2 year old son, his children and his children's children - please don't let the only orang-utans & tigers they see be in the form of a picture in the annals of Endangered and Extinct Wildlife literature... Please, do what's right - not what's economically advantageous.

Thank you for your time.

Brooke Harding