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College Personal Statement

It was drizzling outside when the darkness started to devour the reddish-brown sky. Inside the room, the flames of fire and the greedy faces that appeared on the TV chilled me to the core. It took me some time to process that the television was presenting dogs being mercilessly killed and turned into meals as people celebrated the festival with fires and wine.

Treating animals inhumanely has been normalized for many people within society. The perpetually silent faces on the screen made me think of my cat. Whenever I play with him, I can see all of the emotions and feelings in his eyes. This sparked my passion to help play a role in stopping this cruelty towards animals.

Soon, I found some friends who share my love of animals, and we set up an animal protection organization. We first conducted several lectures in our communities to talk about the importance of treating animals equally and respecting their lives. However, I felt frustrated and sad when I realized there were hardly any people interested in our lectures. Some even said that there was no need to change people's perception about animals. I knew that if people's thinking remained this way, more animals would be in danger in the future.

After reviewing what we had done, I discovered a weakness in our lecture method. We did not have sufficient content to attract enough people to this movement, nor did it make them feel as though they should change their perceptions about the treatment of animals. I invited some of my friends with experience caring for pets to share their stories during the lectures. This made them more engaging by allowing the audience to relate emotionally with what was being said. This approach was very effective. Even those who had claimed that there was no need to treat animals differently came up to ask us for more information on protecting animals.

Later, we contacted the local animal station to organize a volunteer drive. We wanted to not only help the animal station, but also give people the experience of seeing how unique each and every life form is; just like humans, animals should be treated fairly and equally. This activity was quite successful, resulting in an increase in membership for the organization. I also noticed something interesting: many of the homeless pets who used to wander at a green area near my school were suddenly gone. Then, I heard from my friends who lived nearby that some people in the neighborhood had adopted them as their pets.

I was delighted when our recent survey showed that the majority of people now feel it is necessary to treat animals equally and protect them from being hurt by others. This was the first time I realized that I have the power to influence the people and environment around me. It was a valuable experience for me to help change other people's beliefs and actions. If I had not made the decision to be a change agent, the situation would have just continued and even worsened. This is why I believe that sometimes it is good to fight to change things we think are wrong. Therefore, I will continue to fight in causes I believe in throughout college and beyond.

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