

Email Correspondence in 2016 and 2017 Between Cheryl McCloud and Lori Shepler that was included in the PPO as evidence.

7/10/16

From Shepler

Hi Cheryl,

Please send me the screenshots of who attacked or threatened you.

Will you please entertain the idea of not declawing all your kittens and cats and educating the people in your area about the facts of declawing and why it is bad to do to a cat.

It seems like you must work with such unethical pro-declaw vets who condone declawing and deceive you to believe that it doesn't harm kittens or cats.

Please open your mind and heart and realize you are allowing so much harm, pain, and true suffering by having your cats declawed.

Cat owners will use the humane alternatives once they realize what declawing is and how inhumane and bad it is for a cat.

Please join the modern and compassionate world and join us to end this inhumane and barbaric procedure in America.

Have you watched the Paw Project movie? Maybe it will inspire you to be on the side of kitties and join us.

Thank you,

Lori and City the Kitty

7/10/16

From McCloud

You are a bunch of radicals that I won't deal with. I adopt about 1000 to 1200 animals a year . I am a non-paid director for 40 years. I trust you are doing as much. I have never experienced any of the crap you say happens. I guess I have superior skilled surgeons. I will declaw a kitten to find it a home and can tell you I get them her after surgery and even though they receive pain meds for three days they are bouncing around and playing like maniacs 2 days after surgery. If you want an agenda go after the idiots that spay and neuter at 8 weeks leaving them completely drained and lethargic. You can leave me alone as I would rather see a kitten spayed /declawed living inside a beautiful home than to be gassed or worse at a county shelter. If I was not responsible for saving kittens at several local shelters I could have the choice of keeping kittens a long time . By the way sense I am the only one there to save them I assume you are not there either. Where do you pull kittens from and how many a year do you adopt. Or are you just a yapper. By the way I personally have never had a declawed cat. I just adopted a feral cat 6 years old from GA. I had 4 that lived to be 19-21 none were declawed. I have a choice....spay and declaw or leave them there to die. I suspect you are one who leaves them there to die, and boy do they suffer at some of the county shelters. Cheryl McCloud

From Shepler

7/10/16

Listen Cheryl,

First of all you are being very deceived by your unethical vet to believe that cats don't need their toe bones and claws for so much of their health and well being.

You don't adopt 1200 a year Cheryl, you adopted 900 last year and around 2/3 were cats. I need to tell you that many of the people who work with you are writing me and telling me a lot of things that are not so good about how things are run at your rescue. I know you mean well and want to find cats homes but you really need to wake up to the fact that declawing is very bad for a cat. Also, many of your cats that have issues of peeing outside of the litter box have to do with bone fragments in their paws..you don't seem to want to address this issue or believe it but it is 100% factual.

Stop trying to deflect the issue at hand. I know you have a brain and can do a simple google search. Every single shelter in America is against declawing and educates cat owners about it and about the humane alternatives. Why do you think almost every shelter is against declawing. They aren't afraid of the rates going up because in the 8 cities in California where declawing was banned the cats in their shelters rates dropped for the 5 yrs after the ban. Most all rescues in America except for a few like yours in MICHIGAN, don't declaw cats or let people who are going to declaw them adopt them.

Why do you have such an antiquated mindset that thinks you have to declaw most all of your cats to get them in homes. Your superior skilled surgeons are unethical prodeclaw vets who make good money maiming and mutilating cat's paws.

Even kids get it Cheryl that amputating a body part for the sake of a natural behavior is wrong. Please read this story as it is recent and took them 6 months of investigative work to do..it is all facts.

Why are you stuck in the dark ages Cheryl? You are doing a good thing to help find cats homes but boy are you shaming it by doing such an inhumane thing to them.

I don't adopt cats by the way. I was a staff photographer at the latimes for 25 yrs and won three team pulitzers for my photography with my colleagues. I now work on this cause 16 hr days, 7 days a week for zero pay. I've had to borrow from my 401k early to pay my bills since I want to save cats from this horrible thing.

You have a choice Cheryl, to spay and neuter cats and be a humane and sensible person who puts the cats up for adoption and show people how simple it is to use scratchers, soft paws, trim nails, and NOT amputate their body parts for god's sake.

I can't fathom how you are so unable to comprehend such a simple and rational concept unless you truly don't like cats or have such a strong desire to believe your evil and unethical pro-declaw vets.

I hope you wake up. We are getting the word out to newspapers and tv stations in Michigan and to legislators so that this torture and inhumane treatment to cats doesn't keep continuing.

Please read this story and then let me know what you think <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/05/02/what-s-good-for-veterinarians-is-bad-for-cats.html>
Also can you please provide some insight why so many cat owners are stuck in the dark ages about declawing and still keep doing it in Michigan. I just don't understand it other than it is just tradition and no one cares to do any research or educate themselves about the truth and facts. If you personally have never declawed a cat then why in the world don't you instill that healthy mindset like how you are with cats and not declawing them?? If you can do it Cheryl then so can all of your adopters. Think of how you will be such a hero and be on the right side of cat history and you might even get more people donating to your rescue to help you get more cats in homes!
Be an inspiration Cheryl and a leader who does the right thing and isn't known as someone who ordered up such a barbaric and inhumane thing on thousands of innocent kitties in Michigan. I believe in you.
Thanks,

And ps, what is radical is the idea of amputating a body part of a cat in such a cruel, painful, and inhumane way for the sake of a natural behavior that can be addressed by humane alternatives.

Will you please ask your unethical pro-declaw vets to contact me and explain how they justify doing this mutilation procedure since they took an oath to heal and help animals. Also pls ask them how they justify declawing your cats when these cats haven't even been given the chance to use scratchers and haven't even presented themselves as having scratching issues. I mean what they are doing and what you are having done to cats and kittens is just down right wrong and truly evil Cheryl.

As a person who supposedly cares about animals and cats, you really should look inside your heart and wonder how you can justify it.

<http://www.citythekitty.com/helpful-advice-for-scratching-issues-and-declawing-facts/>

And can you pls explain why on your Legislate Animal Welfare you only seem to care about dog issues and dog causes and legislation that helps the welfare of dogs. I mean it seems like blatant discrimination to me since you have no cat causes AND are purposely and unnecessarily causing great pain and suffering and torturing innocent cats and kittens who did nothing to deserve that. :(Very very concerning to say the least.

Here is a bill that was recently introduced. Maybe you can share it on your fb page and ask if your followers in Michigan can find a legislator like Troy Singleton who will sponsor a declawing bill in Michigan! :)

http://www.troysingleton.com/ending_an_inhumane_practice_declawing_cats?utm_campaign=troy_talk_120&utm_medium=email&utm_source=troysingleton

Or have your followers sign this important petition for legislation

<https://www.change.org/p/support-new-jersey-s-anti-declaw-bill-a3899-singleton>

Here is your chance to step up Cheryl and do the right thing! :) Win win for you and your rescue and for the kitties in Michigan!

7/11/16

From McCloud

Ok you win I will leave them in the shelters to die...I trust you will get them.....right?

From Shepler

7/11/16

Hey Cheryl,

Once you step out of your place of defensiveness and immature position, try to reread my email with an open mind Cheryl.

Sure if you have a no declaw policy then you may not be having 600 cats per year go through your system but you will be doing the right thing and eventually with yours and others help of educating cat owners in your town, people will start to realize that declawing always harms a cat both short term and long term. They will join the rest of most of the country and most of the world that does the right thing and uses scratchers and the humane alternatives instead of barbarically amputating body parts off cats that are so important to their health and well being.

Cheryl, your "skilled surgeon" cruelly crushes off the toe bones of your kitties if they use the guillotine clippers or they burn the toe bones off with their \$35,000 laser machine. It's all bad for a cat, no matter what you think or how it's done.

They ALL will suffer a lifetime in some way. Cats are notorious for hiding their pain and suffering but they will get arthritis from having to walk differently, they will avoid the litter box because of the irritation and pain, and their back muscles will be weaker because they can't use their claws for stretching and strengthening their backs. And other negative consequences. These aren't myths, they are facts.

Can you imagine a foster home saying, we just care about getting as many kids through our system as we can so we are going to amputate their fingers so they won't ruin walls by drawing on them or throwing food because that's what the parents want. NO! You would educate those people who want to adopt that they can teach their children to NOT throw food or draw on walls by giving them the humane alternatives and deterrents.

Cheryl, be a leader and help make Michigan a more humane place for cats. Stop perpetuating, condoning and performing this evil, inhumane, and very unnecessary procedure on your cats.

Doing the right thing is sometimes hard but in the long run, it will pay off for you and for your cats. They will live lives without pain and suffering and with the God given body parts that are so important to them being a feline and their health and well being.

Can't you see past your anger and stubbornness to see what you are doing is so very wrong. Don't you have leadership skills to be able to inspire your cat people to stop mutilating their cats? Why do rescues in this country have great success in educating people about declawing and getting cats out of shelters and into homes without amputating their toe bones and claws?

Are you basically saying that people in Michigan don't have the intelligence or the heart to wake up and realize how wrong and bad declawing is for cats? Don't underestimate your own people Cheryl. They trust you and look up to your guidance. I know people in Michigan are raised with good morals and values and once they truly realize how bad declawing is, they wouldn't want their kitties harmed like that.

What a great leader you could be if you got out of your antiquated mindset that you've had for 40 years because an evil and unethical vet invented a very inhumane thing to address scratching issues when all it takes is a little commonsense, scratchers, nail trims, and care and cats and humans can live together happily and in a healthy and humane way.

Let me know if you want to take this honorable and inspiring route or your defeatist route of saying you won't rescue the cats and kittens anymore.

Take care,

Lori

Here are some vets in Michigan who don't declaw cats and who could help you with this if you want. I have other vets who want to help too so this could be amazing for my home state and you would be a hero and leader to start this movement and get Michigan into the modern world with this inhumane procedure. Are any of them close to you? Please leave these unethical vets that you use.

Tracy Thorpe, DVM Thorpe Animal Hospital 1678 Mayfield Rd Lapeer, MI 48446 (517) 675-3133
www.thorpevet.com

Nancy Bischof, DVM, MPH Perry, MI (517) 675-3133 The Cat Project

Paws Mobile Veterinary Service Kathy VanKoevinger, DVM Saline, MI 48176 (734) 429-7297 Paws Mobile Veterinary Service

Arbor Pointe Vet Hospital Canton, MI 734-844-8844 www.arborpointe.com/position-statement-on-cat-declaws

Ruey Stocking, DVM Richland, MI (310) 924-2754 Email: rueystocking@gmail.com

“Opening Summer of 2016” Red Barn Cat Clinic, LLC 6291 N. 37th St., Richland, Mi 49083

Natural Healing Pet care, berkley

wixom family pet paractice, wixom

7/11/16

From McCloud

You don't hear what I am saying , this is the last of it now. I do not promote declawing . I myself have never had a declawed cat. I only declaw when people request it or when I have kittens not yet spoken for. If the slander continues I will speak to my attorney . You may speak all you want about declawing spreading all kinds of lies if you like but if you continue to slander Lake Haven you are going to end up in court. The slander and mistruths stop now or else. Please use your time to save all the kittens from death in county shelters and shut your yap. Cheryl McCloud

7/11/16

From Shepler

Hey Cheryl I need you to listen to me carefully.

It is completely ridiculous that you are declawing cats " that aren't spoken for." and all the ones who are less than one year old. Your own website says all cats leave your rescue declawed and you know very well that you declaw almost all of your cats.

The way you run your rescue and this inhumane and mutilating procedure is beyond comprehensible for a person who supposedly has a brain and the ability to reason and who has compassion for animals.

Your pro-declaw veterinarians are unethical and are deceiving you to believe that this horrific surgery does not harm a cat.

You seem like a very angry person who is stuck in the past and can't see through your own willful ignorance about this mutilating procedure. Wake up. We aren't in the dark ages anymore Cheryl and you really are an embarrassment to our country on how you address declawing with your rescue.

Go ahead and threaten me all you want because nothing I've put out there is slanderous or anything other than factual.

You are tainting your legacy Cheryl and thousands will remember you for having a chance to do the right thing and what other Rescues are doing but you can't seem to find it in you to take the path that is the noble one. You are more about trying to save the most animals without being concerned that you are harming so many of them.

I'm receiving notes from many people who have adopted cats from you and they did have issues with the declaws and you are known to just pretend like it can be the declaws. Wow. You really need to educate yourself and wake up to how much harm you are causing in cats.

How do you sleep at night feeling good about this? You just look away and pretend like all the cats that you ordered up the amputations of their toe bones by your favorite unethical vet who uses her laser to burn off the toe bones, are ok. Just to break records in how many cats you can get out of shelters and into homes?

Okie dokie. Such a shame Cheryl, such a shame. :(

7/11/16

To Shepler

You do not speak truth. How can you sleep knowing all you do is get on facebook and yap while animals die.

7/11/16

From Shepler

What part is not the truth ? At least I know in my heart that I have saved hundreds of cats from being tortured and mutilated and yet you're ordering it up and pretending like it's OK. Who's doing the right thing Cheryl? No matter how many cats or dogs you get out of shelters you are still doing something that is factually known as mutilation, inhumane, cruel and unnecessary. And how you justify that in your conscience shows a lot about your integrity and character.

7/11/16

From McCloud

You have saved nothing from nothing. None of the cats I have done have ad any issues. Are there bad surgeons out there absolutely. I know some I would not let touch my cat or dog. My surgeries have been fine , we have not experienced anything but bouncing kittens after surgery and no issues later as I stay in touch with my adoptees. You should make a trip to the county shelters if you really want to see suffering that needs help. The fact you don't tells me you are a yapper. All talk no do. You are really twisted and I will not waste my time with trying to explain . All further emails will be deleted.

7/11/16

From Shepler

I'm sorry but the fact that you won't even entertain the idea of trying to EDUCATE the cat owners that come in to adopt cats at your practice about declawing and the fact that you are so close minded to think that cats don't need their toe bones and claws for so many aspects of their health and well being shows me that you truly don't care about the welfare of cats. The facts are out there about declawing so there's no excuse.

You just want to feed your ego as to how many cats you can rescue and put in a home, overlooking the fact that you are always harming them when you order up a declaw. Your unethical vets at Fremont and all the other places are deceiving you to believe cats don't need their toe bones.

It is beyond believable that your willful ignorance is making you believe that if a "good vet" amputates the kittens toe bones the right way, then it is ok.

Your stubborn nature and power tripping thinking that you know all and will do it your way is causing you to be a person who condones animal cruelty. Pretty twisted way of going about your life under the guise of being a savior to so many animals. :(Many of your volunteers are writing me saying there is no hope in you changing because you are so stubborn and hardheaded.

So we will have to educate your town, county, and state about declawing for you since you want to keep perpetuating the myth that if you have a good "doctor" then it's ok to have them burn off or chop off a cat's or kitten's toes. You are deceiving the public by allowing this cruelty Cheryl and we won't look the other way to this injustice. Too many cats are suffering by your unethical practices.

Why don't you NOT declaw them and let the public choose if they want to maim their kitties? Wow, what a commonsense concept for a rational person in charge of a big rescue...but commonsense seems so few and far between for you and many of your cronies back there.

11/18/17

Hey Cheryl,

I see that you are still declawing the kittens and young adult cats at Lake Haven. It's been a couple years since we talked about this and I thought that maybe you would have joined the modern world that knows declawing is wrong and always harmful to the health and well being of a cat, no matter how it is done.

There are some new studies that show these facts. Here is one of the many stories. Why don't you educate yourself about the newest facts about this inhumane and cruel procedure since the unethical and greedy declawing vets that you use, are deceiving you about it.

<https://www.drmartybecker.com/veterinary-medicine/evidence-declawing-cats-just-keeps-mounting/>

Also attached is the declawing statement from the Canadian veterinary medical association and also from the biggest shelter in the world. I'm curious if you know something that they don't about declawing. Please send me your facts and info that show amputating 10 toe bones on a cat is ok to the health and well being of those cats and kittens.

Thanks,

Lori Shepler and City the Kitty

www.citythekitty.com

I forgot to include this short youtube video from the number one pain expert in the world. Please educate yourselves about how you are causing a lifetime of pain and suffering by ordering up declaws for those kittens and young cats.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mM00TNHRpLQ>

11/19/17

From McCloud

You have saved nothing from nothing. None of the cats I have done have had any issues. Are there bad surgeons out there absolutely. I know some I would not let touch my cat or dog. My surgeries have been fine, we have not experienced anything but bouncing kittens after surgery and no issues later as I stay in touch with my adoptees. You should make a trip to the county shelters if you really want to see suffering that needs help. The fact you don't tell me you are a yapper. All talk no do. You are really twisted and I will not waste my time with trying to explain. All further emails will be deleted.

11/19/17

From Shepler

Cheryl you keep repeating the same thing over and over. I guess you don't care that you are harming cats and causing them a lifetime of pain and suffering. All you care about is getting them in a home no matter what condition they are in. It's pretty sad coming from someone who says they care about the welfare of all animals.

11/19/17

From McCloud

Please go do something with your time. Go save one kitty, don't declaw it, just rip out its uterus and adopt it into a home. Then you can say you saved one.

From Shepler

11/21/17

Hey Cheryl

I'm just curious what shelters do you get your kittens from and are they ok with you automatically declawing most of the kittens?

Thanks

Lori

From McCloud

11/22/17

Why don't you take this time and go get just one kitty from a shelter and save its life, thousands are being killed daily in case you don't know. Just save one and shut your pie-hole, and leave people alone who are actually trying to save them. You are an ass. We have none of the problems you describe or I would not do it. You sound stupid with your ranting about things that are not happening. There is a plot happening in shelters tho ...go look As they kill 600 kittens a month in a GR shelter. You are totally ignorant of what is real.

From Shepler

11/22/17

Hey Cheryl.

I am being told that you are a very stubborn and difficult person to deal with by many people in your area. I understand that you want to save as many cats from being put down but would you please at least understand the concept that getting those cats out of the shelter and in to homes and causing them a lifetime of some sort of pain and suffering is just not right.

It is a fact that declawing causes negative consequences to all cats no matter how it is done. Do you think that all your cat adopters are just ignorant and stupid and can't learn how to use the commonsense humane alternatives like nail trims, sturdy scratchers and Soft Paws?? All kittens can be trained to use scratchers. Why can't you grasp this simple humane concept like most of the rest of the cat owners in the world do? It's like you just want to stay in the dark ages and stay ignorant on this barbaric procedure but it's actually really strange and concerning since it is cat cruelty and inhumane. There's no rhyme or reason to you holding steadfast to your antiquated and inhumane perspective and how you are cruelly and unnecessarily harming all those kittens and cats.

Do you understand that 99.9% of the shelters and rescues in America are against declawing. Did you see the shelter stats in the cities where declawing was banned. The amount of cats in shelters dropped significantly..it didn't go up.

Why won't you do a simple educational campaign in your area to educate the public about the awful facts about declawing and the humane alternatives so they will adopt your kitties and not want this cruel and harmful procedure done to them? Why won't you entertain this idea? Do you secretly enjoy maiming and harming cats?

Please answer these simple questions so I can understand why any human being who has a heart and brain would order up this torture and cruelty to little kittens who have no scratching issues.

Thanks,

Lori

Here is the chart showing you the stats. Also did you know Denver banned declawing last week. Also the American Assoc. of Feline Practitioners came out and said they are against declawing. Do you or Dr Brueker know something that all these experts don't know?? Also here is a statement from the biggest shelter in the world and from the Canadian vet med association. Do you know something that they don't, if you do please send me your studies. Remember, Dr Bruekers practice says they see all those negative problems in their declawed cats. What do you say about that? Cats are notorious for hiding their suffering and pain. Maybe you need to educate yourself about the facts about cats too.

11/22/17

From McCloud

I have been told you are tunnel minded idiots incapable of seeing anything but your issue .

11/22/17

From Shepler

I'm sorry. What is our issue? Trying to educate you about the facts about declawing since Dr Brueker is deceiving you and making you think that the fact that she burns off all of your kittens toe bones and claws, it's humane and OK to the long-term health and well-being of a cat?

Did you even take the time to read any of those studies Cheryl or are you just so old and stubborn but you can't get out of your antiquated mindset that thinks this barbaric cat cruelty is ok?

No one is saying you don't do good things to help animals but this is definitely something that is tainting all of the good work that you do. There is absolutely no need for you to have those cats toe bones and claws amputated.

If you educate the public about how harmful it is and teach them about the humane and easy alternatives like scratchers and nail trims, unless they are sadistic animal abusers, they wouldn't want to do this cruelty to their cats. That's why it's making me wonder why you are so defensive and standing on your ground that you think Declawing a kitten or cat is just fine.

It's pretty disturbing to most rational people with humane mindsets that you are doing this unnecessary torture and harm to all of those kittens and cats Cheryl. I can't imagine that all the people in your town and in Michigan are ignorant people who don't know how to use their brains. They been deceived by all of the unethical declawing vets to think that declawing is ok and it's far from that.

What part of this simple concept don't you understand? Maybe ask one of your younger volunteers to explain all this to you and open your heart and mind and they might be able to get through and you actually could be more of a hero in your town by ending this cruel and inhumane procedure. Last week we inspired Texas Coalition for animal protection to stop declawing. They are the biggest spay and neuter organization in Texas and they realize that this procedure is very harmful to all cats.

Why don't you join the modern world Cheryl that accepts this truth. It sure would be a more humane legacy of what you have done for animals if you do.

11/22/17

From McCloud

Now you have went too far. I will not tolerate you berating my wonderful Vet, You ae the disgusting one. We have no trouble with our surgeries . Can you explain why is it is so crippling to them that my kittens are running and playing eating and loving life after? You are a lunatic.

From Shepler

11/22/17

Your "wonderful vet" is sadistically and inhumanely harming hundreds and hundreds of cats and kittens and profiting from this cat cruelty. Your wonderful vet is a complete shame to the veterinary profession and is dishonoring the oath she took to ease the suffering in animals and not cause it like she is when she burns off their toe bones and claws. Your wonderful Vet is deceiving you about this barbaric and mutilating procedure and making you believe that it's OK because the cats are jumping around the next day and "loving life." That's probably the most ignorant comment I've ever heard in all my years of doing this cause. You should write a story about how you are able to talk to cats and they tell you exactly how they feel. Amazing since cats are notorious for hiding any type of discomfort or pain.

I've sent you enough information that if you read it, any sane and compassionate person would pause and ask themselves why they were ordering up this inhumane procedure especially when there are many humane alternatives that are simple and that do work instead of doing this amputation procedure.

How do you explain the long-term arthritis, chronic pain syndrome, and increased relinquishment with age from walking on their toe amputations? I know you're choosing to have willful ignorance so that you don't think that you have done any harm to these cats but the awful truth is Cheryl you are doing a lot of harm to hundreds and hundreds of cats for their lifetime. Pretty appalling coming from someone who runs a rescue that supposed to be all about helping the welfare of animals.

Usually when people know better, they do better, but in your case it's obvious you truly don't care about the welfare of cats .

Now you are wasting my valuable time so I will use it for more productive things like educating the town that you have your rescue in, trying to get stories in the local papers and TV channels, and also find a legislator in Michigan who will sponsor a bill To ban declawing to protect cats from people like you.

Oh and maybe this is simple enough for you to understand why cats need their claws. (ATTACHED IS A RED AND HOWLING Poster showing what cats need their claws.) You should print up a lot of these like many other shelters and rescues in America are doing to help educate their potential adopters. That is if you truly care about the welfare of cats. Imagine if the town Of Newaygo Michigan got out of the dark ages and realized they didn't need to mutilate and harm their cats to protect their ugly sofas and they all had cats with claws like most of the rest of the world does.

11/23/17

From Shepler

(McCloud announced in a facebook post that she was going to declaw 5 kittens so I tried to save them from this harm by offering to find homes for them or pay her money to not declaw them. She went ahead and had them declawed.)

Ps What do I need to do to stop you from declawing the "E litter" kittens on Monday by Dr Bruekers laser? Find people to rescue them or pay you and/or her money? Please let me know ASAP. Thanks. Lori

11/24/17

From Shepler

Cheryl I'm serious. Do I need to find people to adopt them so you won't go through with their declaws on Monday????

How about if you don't declaw them and I will find people to adopt them with their toes and claws so they can live a life free of pain and suffering. If I don't hear from you I will try to call dr Brueker today and ask her.

Please don't go through with burning their toe bones and claws off on Monday.

11/24/17

From McCloud

I would not do that if I were you. The last time I talked to her she was considering a lawsuit for the blasphemous email you sent me regarding how she was "deceiving me" and other statements that were not fact. If you don't stop I will obtain a restraining order against you. You are nuts!!