

PIGGIE POO

Arizona's Small Animal Rescue

Case Study: Peoria Breeder Animal Cruelty Case

July 5, 2008



Taylor
Emaciated, hair loss due to malnutrition and scurvy

In June and July of 2008, Piggie Poo Rescue worked diligently with Detective Bylow of Maricopa County's Animal Crimes Division and the community at large to remove nearly 100 guinea pigs from a breeder in Peoria. The pigs were kept in the worst imaginable conditions and subject to unthinkable injustice. Most of the piggies were destined for Rainbow Exotics, a wholesaler out of Texas under investigation by PETA.

This breeder kept several baby pools in a garage with up to 50 piggies in each pool. There was no A/C or fans in the garage, where temperatures in Arizona often exceed 115°. The odor of neglect could be smelled from the road.

In the seven years this family has been breeding, never had they utilized the services of a veterinarian. Instead, they performed c-sections on dead sows to save the \$8 per pup they got from the wholesaler. As well, they amputated limbs from piggies with bumblefoot and tossed them back into the dirty baby pool still bleeding.



Maricopa County's Sherriff
Joe Arpaio with Harley



Angie's eye infection, left untreated at the breeder, eventually cost her, her eye.

The sows were bred back to back until their bodies shut down and they are no longer capable of sustaining pregnancy. Then they were eliminated, like many of the pups, who were drowned if the herd got too large to manage or if there are too many male pups whelped to sell to the wholesaler.

To date the "*Peoria Breeder*" has been the largest and one of the most heartbreaking intakes for Piggie Poo Rescue. The community all over the world, even as far away as Sweden, our Vet associates and of course our amazing volunteers, came together to save these animals in heart whelming fashion. We

lost less than 5% of this herd; unexpectedly wonderful results considering where we started and all piggies were placed in qualified homes in less than a year.