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## **NEW BOOK SHATTERS MYTH OF PET OVERPOPULATION**

*Pet guru calls for an end to the killing of 5 million dogs and cats every year*

San Clemente, CA... Pet guru Nathan J. Winograd, whose work has been featured in *Reader's Digest*, *USA Today*, *Metropolitan Home*, and in local newspapers, radio and television around the country has written the definitive book on animal sheltering in the United States and calls for an end to the killing of homeless dogs and cats.

*Redemption: The Myth of Pet Overpopulation and the No Kill Revolution in America* uncovers an "industry's" dirty little secret—that the killing of five million dogs and cats in U.S. animal shelters is largely unnecessary. Indeed, shelter killing is believed to be the leading cause of death for healthy dogs and cats in the United States. The numbers killed are staggering. And for far too long, Americans have been led to believe that there is no other way. That killing is, in fact, an act of kindness for homeless or unwanted pets. But, in fact, killing is neither kind nor necessary, nor will it prevent animal suffering. It is population control killing that itself is the root cause of animal suffering in our nation's animal control shelters.

"Today, most Americans hold the humane treatment of animals as a personal value, which is reflected in our laws, cultural practices, the proliferation of organizations founded for animal protection, increased per capita spending on animal care, and great advancements in veterinary medicine," says Winograd. "There are over 70 million pet dogs and 90 million pet cats in the United States, and their owners are collectively spending 38 billion dollars a year. But the agencies that the public expects to protect homeless animals are instead killing more than five million animals annually."

How did this happen? How did the very charities founded on the highest ideals of compassion become the nation's leading killers of dogs and cats? And why does the pet loving American public, the very same people who talk to their pets and celebrate their birthdays, not only accept it but continue to foot the bill through taxes and voluntary donations?

The humane movement was founded in the late nineteenth century to preserve life, to instill the principle into our society that all life is precious, and to advocate for kind and compassionate treatment of animals. But a movement founded to protect life has been replaced almost entirely with approximately 6,000 animal shelters which do little more than kill dogs and cats. "There is another way," says Winograd. The movement to end the killing began in San Francisco in 1994, spread eastward to Tompkins County, New York which in 2002 became the first No Kill community in the U.S. and is now spreading elsewhere: Charlottesville, Virginia is the latest community to embrace the No Kill philosophy saving 92% of homeless dogs and cats, when many communities are killing that many.

This is the story of animal sheltering in the United States, a movement which was born of compassion and then lost its way. It is the story of the No Kill movement, which says we can and must stop the killing. It is about heroes and villains, of betrayal and redemption. And it is about a social movement as noble and just as those that have come before. But most of all, it is a story about believing in the community and trusting in the power of compassion.

*Redemption* will be available for sale on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Borders and other fine booksellers in August 2007. *Redemption* is published by Almaden Books. For more information, including print quality images of the cover and author, and other background, author biography, and marketing material, go to [www.nathanwinograd.com](http://www.nathanwinograd.com) and click on "Media."

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