

# SHARK: Showing Animals Respect & Kindness

*Dedicated to ending the abuse and suffering of animals everywhere.*

May 11, 2011

Ms. Sheryl Crow  
c/o Ms. Barbara Carrol

Dear Ms. Crow:

Re: Wild Horses and The Cheyenne Frontier Days Rodeo

SHowing Animals Respect and Kindness (SHARK) is an animal protection organization with over 20 years experience in documenting animal cruelty and speaking out about this matter of great public concern. One of our main areas of focus is rodeos. We believe rodeos are cruel and we believe the Cheyenne Frontier Days (CFD), where you are scheduled to perform, is especially cruel due to its "Wild Horse Race" and inclusion of "steer busting."

We have seen and appreciated your efforts to help wild horses. This is why we were surprised to learn that you are scheduled to perform at a rodeo, particularly the CFD. We have documented numerous injuries (some fatal) to animals, including horses, at the CFD.

In 2005, I personally witnessed a young horse that suffered such a severe injury that she was carted out of the arena on a stretcher. You can view pictures of what happened to her here: [www.SHARKonline.org/?P=0000000459](http://www.SHARKonline.org/?P=0000000459).

In 2009, I witnessed the tragic and heartbreaking death of the horse "Strawberry Fudge. You can watch what happened to this poor horse here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-sj6bAx4c4>. Nearly one million people have watched our video of the death of Strawberry Fudge. It is perhaps one of the saddest events our cameras have ever recorded.

The Wild Horse Race is an event that is not held at most rodeos, yet the CFD has it every year. You can watch a sampling of what happened at the 2010 CFD Wild Horse Race here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p10ZHvxISwk>.

The CFD also includes steer busting. Relatively few rodeos still do steer. You can watch a sampling of steer busting here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtRPGY5IDQU>

In addition, dangerous calf jerkdowns, which are supposed to be banned in rodeo, still occur at the CFD. In 2010, SHARK investigators witnessed and video documented four of these innocent animals who were so badly injured that they had to be dragged out on a sled, see:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fJX8Inpkx4>

You may also want to view this video -- a sampling of clips compiling the numerous injuries to animals that occurred during the 2010 CFD:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLP9vQPgNJA>

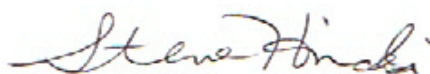
Like you, other great, compassionate performers have also lent their voices and support to animals including Rikki Rockett of Poison (spoke out against rodeos in 2008), Matchbox Twenty (withdrew from the CFD entertainment lineup in 2008 citing animal welfare concerns), the Rolling Stones and the legendary Sir Paul McCartney.

SHARK applauds your speaking-out against the round-ups of the wild horses and burros on the western plains of America. What is happening to these horses is truly an American travesty. But what is happening at CFD, to some of these same horses, we believe is also a travesty. I urge you not just to take our word for it, but to reach out to others and educate yourself about what happens to animals at rodeos.

I am including the following picture that was taken last summer at the Wild Horse Race at CFD..

**We think this one image says everything; the anger, the fear, the violence, and the cruelty. Won't you join us in taking a stand against rodeos? At the very least, insist that the Cheyenne Frontier Days abandon its cruel wild horse race.**

Sincerely,



Steve Hindi  
President

[www.ShameOnCheyenne.com](http://www.ShameOnCheyenne.com)  
[www.RodeoCruelty.com](http://www.RodeoCruelty.com)



*Rodeo thugs hitting horse during "Wild Horse" Event*