

Re: FYP

From: helmy.m@protonmail.com <helmy.m@protonmail.com>

To: Heather Chen <heather.chen@vice.com>

Date: Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021 at 11:56 AM

Hey Heather,

Yes, I familiarized with you work, and that is why I mentioned it is worth reconsidering what constitutes 'cruelty' and 'evidence'. Asking me to produce witnesses from NTU is at least disingenuous. Not looking through the reports on my website and not attempting to contact the authors of the FYPs I sent you does not strike me as open-minded, thorough, and professional. Read through your own message: what am I supposed to do? *Go back* to NTU, walk around, asking 'Who might have been ordered to slice animals open for no reason?' In other words this (wailing voice) 'I just *can't* find any evidence (because there are no *voices*)!' when literally *tonnes* of it is staring you in the face is....puzzling.

And like I said: what do you think a culture of fear and silencing *is*? Why are there so many (ahem) policies to protect a so-called whistleblower if it was an everyday sort of thing? That said, such a complete, ubiquitous, and consolidated community of spineless wussies I have yet to encounter.

And your *extremely* personal and sulky reaction to what *could* be a story is unusual. I do not think it was ever about the story.

In short: blow it out your ear.

Mohamed Helmy
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----- Original Message -----

On Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 at 11:19 PM, Heather Chen <heather.chen@vice.com> wrote:

Hi Helmy, I think you came to the assumption that by asking if you had other contacts I could speak with about the allegations of abuse, you might have jumped on the offence that I am disputing your claims about what happened to the lab animals. For the record: I'm not disputing your claims of animal abuse against NTU but as an investigative reporter, I need more sources and witnesses who can back a story up. The articles I have written, and have showed you when we met in person, are multi-faceted and feature more than one voice.

You must be aware that that's how journalism works. It can never be one sided and sourced to a single source/feature one voice only. I thought that I had made it clear when we met that I was going to reach out to NTU and asked if you had other people I can speak with who would also share their own trauma in witnessing the way the rats were killed. And because I respected you by asking if you could meet and talk — to be demanded by you to be shown "proof" of an article or one in the works is really insulting and throws all ethics and respect out of the window. And I'm not sure where that came from.

A journalist never precedes to those requests be it from politicians or other influential figures. It's beyond questionable. It's the way state media outlets operate. And for all my years in journalism, to have those demands thrown at me, for doing my job is outrageous. Do keep well. And wishing you the best.

Sent from my iPhone

On 2 Nov 2021, at 4:05 PM, Helmy <helmy.m@protonmail.com> wrote:

Hello Heather,

Cruelty to animals is evident in:

1. My report [here](#). There is so much data I wouldn't know where to start pointing it out. You may wish to start with:

(a) pages 163 to 168. Why the work of Mitra and Vyas is cruel by definition and law is explained with reference to the the regulatory frameworks and published data.

(b) pages 204 to 224 which analyzes FYPs supervised by Mitra and Vyas. I collated names as well as the FYPs themselves and sent them to you.

(c) the report as a whole, because if you are killing animals over decades for no reason and across pretty much all the research animal houses in Singapore, or, say, you have a scientist on the ethics board approving his own experiments, etc. that is cruel.

2. Other reports [here](#). As with 1(c) above, if animals are being killed under unknown protocols and for non-transparent reasons, that is cruel.

3. The Animal Use Protocol I sent to you earlier. That it is cruel to animals is not subtle.

4. Other published data such as [here](#).

If you want first hand accounts of 'yes, I sliced open these animals and there was no reason to other than I was ordered to', then you need to talk to someone who was working with Mitra and Vyas. I've already sent you that data and FYPs, and there is more in my report, such as doctoral students.

If you want to argue that 'corruption in research is resulting in waste of animal life', you can do that without talking to anyone. The evidence is so abundant and plentiful, like I said, it's hard to know where to start. Just choose a few examples, the ones that jump out at you.

If you want to make a story from inside NTU, as in with people working in NTU right now, sorry I do not know how to help. I work with data, and the data is there. Tonnes of it. If *VICE* wants to see the videos then you need to gain my trust. I suggested you show me proof of an article in the making, you said that's unethical. I understand. The videos will be published on my website while I am on the plane out of Singapore. Along with lots of other stuff, for example, recorded at the Animal & Veterinary Services, the State Courts, and the Supreme Court of the Republic of Singapore. I promise.

I think a different perspective on what constitutes 'cruelty' and 'evidence' needs to be considered. Of course, a cage-full of rats being slaughtered is very graphic and traumatizing, and like I said to you in our meeting, the last rat especially, the one that makes no noise and does not resist, is particularly moving. However, it is obviously much more *salient* that there is hard evidence, and *tonnes* of it, that: (i) animals are being killed for unscientific reasons and against the law, rules, and regulation; and (ii) this has been going on for a long time. If it helps, I may talk *VICE* staff through the evidence.

Peace,
Helmy

----- Original Message -----

On Saturday, October 23rd, 2021 at 3:07 PM, Helmy <helmy.m@protonmail.com> wrote:

Hey Heather,

I hope your weekend is coming along nicely?

I attach here FYPs the authors of whom I think may be worth contacting including:

- Loo Sze Jie
- Tok Rui Shen (in marketing last time I checked)
- Goh Ching Xian Vivian
- Chhabra Simarpreet Kaur
- Ho Huiying, Bernice
- Choo Gui Jin
- Chia Si Ying, Clarissa
- Lim Xue Yun
- Sean Ng
- William Yeow Wen Wang

I recall not having much trouble tracking them down, usually through LinkedIn ['first and/or last name' AND 'nanyang technological university' OR 'NTU'] and Facebook ['name' AND 'Singapore']. I have photographs of most. I have no doubt you could find them with half the time and effort :)

If you're in the region and feel like a drink, let me know. On me this time ;)

Peace,
Helmy