



Cruelty. You can bet on it.

Every year, around **200** horses are **raced to death** in Britain.

The horses always lose

The racing industry wants the public to believe that betting on horses is just a harmless flutter, when racing is actually a ruthless business that treats animals as expendable, profit-making commodities.



Dirty Secrets

In recent years, around 14,000 foals have been born annually into the closely-linked British and Irish racing industries. The number of horses 'produced' over the past 50 years has spiralled due to unregulated breeding practices. An unspecified number of foals – most probably thousands – will never see a racecourse and their fate remains unknown due to the lack of transparency in the industry. But many will simply be killed.

Those who do race are likely to have short careers, some having just one, two or three races before they are cast out. And all race horses run a high risk of serious injury. Around 200 horses die each year either whilst racing or from subsequent injuries. An indeterminate number of horses die in training.

Deaths on racecourses are attributed to a broken leg, back, neck or pelvis; extreme exhaustion leading to a heart attack; or burst blood vessels in the lungs.

Spare the Rod

Advocates of the whip say that it is used for 'encouragement' and 'correction'. The reality is that exhausted horses are whipped to force them to keep running. As well as being cruel, whipping horses does not actually increase jockeys' chances of winning. The whip can drive horses off a true line and place them, and other horses, in danger.

End of the Line

Around 7,500 horses leave British racing each year. The industry gives a pittance to provide for unwanted animals. In 2021, BBC One's Panorama (featuring Animal Aid's undercover footage) revealed that thousands of race horses were being slaughtered for their meat in Britain and Ireland.



What can you do?

Don't bet on animals' lives!

Betting income and racecourse attendance fees keep the racing industry in business

Learn more about how to help our campaign at:

www.animalaid.org.uk/horse-racing

For a free information pack and to support Animal Aid's work to end animal suffering, please contact:

Animal Aid, The Old Chapel, Bradford Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1AW.

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