



November 28, 2019

The Honorable Oded Muhammad Danial
Mayor of Bandung

Dear Mayor Danial,

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Asia, which has more than 4 million members and supporters worldwide, with regard to your program that involves giving chicks to Bandung students, ostensibly to distract them from their cell phones. We urge you to scrap this idea immediately: Using chicks as teaching "devices" to keep children off *their* devices is both reckless and wrong.

This project puts the life of each chick at risk. They're deprived of the opportunity to bond with their mothers, leading many to become sick or deformed as they grow under conditions that can't meet their needs. Those who survive usually end up being killed when the project is over.

Children who hold chicks—or even touch things around their living area—can be exposed to life-threatening bacteria. Fecal tests have revealed that chicks sometimes carry *E. coli* and four different strains of salmonella. Schools or homes that keep chicks become potential breeding grounds for these and other pathogens.

Chickens are also arguably the most abused animals on the planet. Instead of roaming freely, the vast majority of these birds spend their lives in total confinement—from the moment they hatch until the day they're killed—including the chicks used for this project. Handing out chicks without ensuring their safe treatment and with no real respect for their own needs and desires sends the very dangerous message that it's OK to treat sentient beings as little more than disposable toys.

We'd love to help schools in Bandung find a good, humane way to keep students off their phones. In addition, many non-animal methods can be used to teach students developmental biology that are aligned with recommendations from leading science-education organizations and common learning objectives.

Please don't fail chicks and students by continuing with this plan. May I hear your thoughts on this important matter? I can be contacted at JasonB@PETAAsiaPacific.com.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Baker
Senior Vice President of International Campaigns
PETA Asia

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Hong Kong
GPO Box 1700
Central
Hong Kong

Philippines
Unit 706, Fedman Suites
199 Salcedo Street
Legaspi Village
Makati City 1229
Philippines

Info@PETAAsiaPacific.com
PETAAsiaPacific.com

Affiliates:

- PETA U.S.
- PETA India
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)