



## **BALANCING THE RIGHTS OF MAN AND ANIMAL: THE LEGISLATION ANALYSIS OF STATUS OF THE STREET DOG IN SRI LANKA**

Indrakumara W.D.M.

Sri Lanka Law College  
indrakumara.madushan@gmail.com

### **Abstract**

The future of the planet reside in the balance humans would strike between nature and the human conduct. In that grand picture, the perception man holds about the animal marks a significance. This paper seeks to evaluate the approaches man had taken in catering the animal kingdom, and further induces to suggest a new form of thinking regarding that aspect particularly considering the street dogs and the legislative address of them in the Sri Lankan context. Though the paper confines the finding to the canine companions, addressing the issue of concurrent existence of man and animal can be initiated through this paper in a different approach shedding away the existing cultural and religious affiliations on the relationship between man and animals. The objective of this paper is to analyze the adequacy of the legislations and to advocate an efficient way to address the matters regarding abandoned dogs. Regarding this aspect, the paramount legislation is the Dog Registration Ordinance, which prescribes the registration of pet dogs, eradicating the pet dogs being released stray later, together with Rabies Ordinance which helps to keep the existing stray dog population minimum. Thereby the government can save Rs.325million per on post-bit treatments. The paper follows the methodology of black letter approach, and further, this paper uses qualitative analysis of legislative enactments and case law as primary data and books and journal articles as secondary data. The paper concludes with the suggestion that the rabies ordinance should be utilized with full effect.

**Keywords:** *Stray dogs, Legal analysis, Human animal co-existence, Sri Lanka*