

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME! AND THEIR HOME ISN'T KANSAS.



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FOSTER PARROTS LTD.



BONNIE ZIMMERMAN



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Each year, thousands of parrots are taken from their homes in the wild to be sold as “pets.” The initial shock of losing their freedom and being confined to a cage can kill many wild-caught birds. It is estimated that for every parrot that survives capture and transport, 3 more die.

Although the Wild Bird Conservation Act effectively reduced the United States from the largest importer of wild-caught birds to one of the smallest, parrots continue to be smuggled illegally into the U.S. across the Mexican border each year. Once across the border there is no way to distinguish them from captive-bred birds and, as such, captive breeding facilitates poaching.

Moreover, the desire for birds as “pets” or as breeding stock for captive breeding is the driving force behind the cruel trade in wild-caught birds. The popularity of birds as “pets” in the U.S., whether captive-bred or wild-caught, influences the global trade.

Replacing the demand for birds as “pets” with a demand for preserving the species in the wild will reduce inherent welfare problems associated with captive birds while increasing the support of conservation efforts, such as ecotourism, that help local communities and protect wildlife by allowing people to see that for birds, there’s no place like home... in the wild.

Visit www.avianwelfare.com for more information on how you can help protect parrots.

