

# Animal cruelty no solution to strays issue

I REFER to "Hawker in hot water" (*The Star*, March 13). I believe that the stray dog problem should be looked into.

Although the hawker had continually faced a problem with strays, he should not have taken matters into his own hands by pouring hot water on the poor dog.

The dog is an innocent victim as it is only seeking food for its survival. The hawker should have contacted the local council or SPCA for assistance. Animal cruelty is not the solution to the problem.

There are stray dogs in my area. In the evenings, children would usually come out to play. Thankfully, the stray dogs keep their distance and never appear during those hours or there could be serious problems.

For instance, there were recent reports of stray dogs attacking peo-



ple. It was really scary.

Stray dogs are a big headache for households as well. They would usually rummage through the

garbage bins in the wee hours of the morning and leave the garbage strewn all over the road.

It is an eyesore to the people who

are out on their early morning walk. The householders would have to pick up the garbage before they go to work.

The strays also tend to leave their faeces all over, creating a stink. Besides, these dogs – some abandoned by their owners – have developed skin diseases and are malnourished.

Even with volunteer organisations trying to keep strays off the streets, this problem still persists due to the fact that some people keep dogs to rear and breed and later abandon them.

Let's have a heart for the animals by putting them in a safe and comfortable place where they are taken care of so that we too will be able to live peacefully.

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