



A N J E L I C A H U S T O N

Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director
National Institutes of Health

Dear Dr. Collins,

As our nation grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever to ensure that scientific and fiscal decisions are sound. People are dying for lack of ventilators, effective treatments, and even hospital beds, and many Americans are now confronting difficult choices about the best way to use their shrinking resources. NIH is in a similar position. Studies that are pointless, wasteful, or extremely cruel should be ended now, and that means the emphasis should be placed on non-animal studies, because they offer real promise.

I have seen extremely disturbing [video footage](#) obtained by PETA showing NIH researchers locking brain-damaged monkeys inside metal boxes, and then suddenly scaring them with rubber snakes and plastic spiders. These cruel, pointless experiments aren't worthy of the world's premier research organization, yet NIH has funded them for four decades. They have cost taxpayers \$36 million over the last 13 years alone and have yet to yield a single treatment for humans in any mental or physical health area.

NIH is [charged](#) with providing "leadership and direction to programs designed to improve the health of the Nation." Now more than ever, we need that guidance.

I thank you for your service during this difficult time, but I urge you in the strongest possible terms to end these monkey fright experiments and reorder your agency's priorities so that your focus is on human-relevant research and human health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anjelica Huston", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Anjelica Huston