

'Father of Hip Hop' Condemns Dogfighting

"It hurts the human spirit as much as it hurts the animals," Russell Simmons says.

Posted: November 13, 2007, 5 a.m. EST

Hip hop mogul Russell Simmons, who has been called the father of hip hop, has filmed a new public service announcement denouncing dogfighting.

The spot features a tiny, blindfolded Jack Russell Terrier being offered up to a pit bull for the kill.

"There is nothing slick, cool or glamorous about dogfighting," Simmons states in the announcement. "It hurts the human spirit as much as it hurts the animals."

Simmons has publicly spoken out against dogfighting since joining the ASPCA's Anti-Cruelty Campaign in 2005.

The new PSA was filmed for the Humane Society of the United States and the BeKind Foundation. BeKind founder Frances Hayward and HSUS president Wayne Pacelle offered the spot to the NFL to air during football games but the league declined to run it, the New York Post reports.

Former Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick was convicted on criminal charges related to dogfighting in August. Vick faces sentencing on Dec. 10, 2007

The spot debuts Nov. 13, 2007 on YouTube and the organizations' websites.