

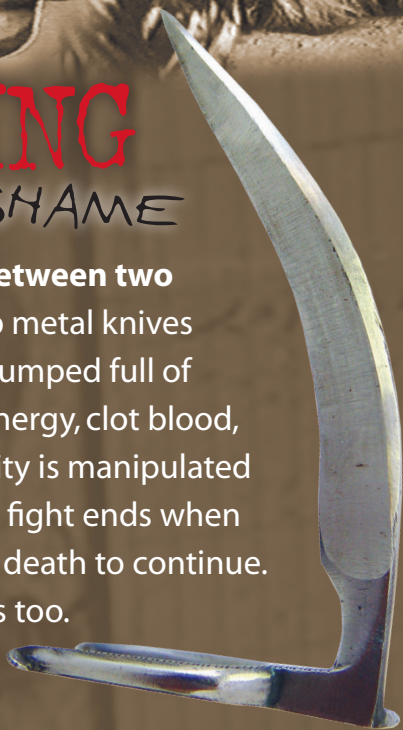
"Most of the horrible things they print about knife fights is true whether you want to believe it or not."

-The Gamecock magazine, May 2002

# COCKFIGHTING

## NEW MEXICO'S SHAME

**What is a cockfight? It's a knife fight between two chickens.** Roosters are armed with sharp metal knives measuring up to 3 1/2 inches long, and pumped full of drugs to heighten aggression, increase energy, clot blood, and fight fatigue. Their natural territoriality is manipulated into a showcase for illegal gambling. The fight ends when one rooster is either dead or too close to death to continue. It's a losing battle for most of the winners too.



### SOME COCKFIGHTING FACTS:

- ↓ Cockfighting is **illegal in all states** except for Louisiana and parts of New Mexico.
- ↓ Cockfighting was banned in most states in the 1800's.
- ↓ A 2001 poll showed that **81% of New Mexican voters support a ban on cockfighting.** Rural and Hispanic voters overwhelmingly agree on a statewide cockfighting ban.
- ↓ Thirteen counties & 29 municipalities in New Mexico have banned cockfighting.
- ↓ Law enforcement, the faith community, veterinarians, domestic violence prevention advocates and chambers of commerce support a cockfighting ban.

***So why haven't our lawmakers banned cockfighting?***

### HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Please urge New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson to support a statewide ban on cockfighting in New Mexico. Tell him that knife fights between chickens are not part of your culture.



**Governor Bill Richardson**

New Mexico State Capitol,  
4th Floor, Santa Fe, NM 87501



Phone: 505-476-2200

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Web: [www.governor.state.nm.us/constituentcontact.html](http://www.governor.state.nm.us/constituentcontact.html)



**Cockfighting isn't our traditional culture.  
It's simple, old-fashioned animal abuse.**



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