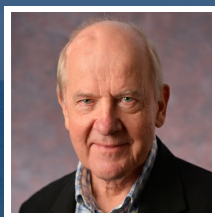


# Endangered Animals Must be Protected from Poaching



Ronald V. Clarke

Dean of the School of Criminal Justice University Professor Director

## CURRENT RESEARCH

Reducing killing and poaching of endangered species by understanding and limiting opportunities for crime

The main threat to conservation of rare animals is often thought to be the loss of suitable habitat. However, poaching, illegal killing and the trade in endangered animals play a major role in the catastrophic declines of these animals, like rhinos and elephants in Africa, parrots in the Neotropics, and pangolins in South-East Asia. Dr. Ronald Clarke, Professor of Criminal Justice and Director of the Center for Conservation Criminology at Rutgers University, examines wildlife crimes through the lens of environmental criminology and seeks ways to reduce criminal predation of endangered species. While the importance of law is acknowledged, and while the Center works on improving the functioning of ranger patrols, Dr. Clarke and team seek to understand and, ultimately, to close down the opportunities that permit these crimes to happen.

This preventive work faces enormous challenges given the vast and remote areas often inhabited by threatened species, inconsistent and weak support from state or national governments, frequently high levels of corruption, and poverty in the countries concerned. Despite these problems, Dr. Clarke and the Center have published important projects in its short existence, studying the ban on the international trade in ivory, the decline of neotropical parrots, and how tigers in Indian reserves could be made more visible to tourists using CCTV cameras so as to protect tigers from poaching. Using a criminological approach to understand the endangerment of species and re-analyzing data collected by biologists, conservation scientists, and conservation NGOs, Dr. Clarke and his team conduct their own field studies to obtain the data that is needed.

A sample of other projects...

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## AFFILIATION



Rutgers University

## EDUCATION

- MA in Clinical Psychology 1965, Institute of Psychiatry, University of London
- Ph.D. in 1968, University of London

## AWARDS

- Awarded the Stockholm Prize in Criminology, June 2015
- Guest at Her Majesty's Garden Party in Buckingham Palace, July 1984

## RESEARCH AREAS

Environment, Ecology, Oceanic, Global Policy

## FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support Dr. Ronald Clarke at Rutgers University as he works to understand and impede poaching. Donations will help fund roughly \$250K needed in the first year to employ a post-doc researcher, to continue field work in South America, Asia, and Africa, to host a conference in Washington DC, and to develop a website for archiving anti-poaching research. Other donations will help maintain the website through the years. Help end illegal wildlife trade and killing; support Dr. Clarke and his team.

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