



In the middle of the 20th century, the number of peregrine falcons in North America started falling. People noticed that there were fewer birds, but they didn't know why. Eventually, scientists confirmed that the cause was the pesticide DDT, which was fatal to these birds. It seemed inevitable that they would die out completely if something was not done.

Therefore, scientists collected young birds and raised them away from danger. This practice produced a dilemma for some bird lovers: if they found a peregrine falcon nest, should they inform the scientists or not?

Clearly, the scientists were genuinely trying to help the peregrine falcons by taking them out of a hostile environment. Their motives were clear: If the program was successful, there would be more wild falcons. However, people worried that if the falcons were removed from their nests, they wouldn't live very long. They feared that if scientists found out about the falcon nests, they would disturb them, and falcons would die.

Some people responded to this conflict by informing scientists about the birds, while others felt the more moral action was to keep the information quiet. Fortunately, scientists were able to cite examples of successfully raising peregrine falcons and setting them free. Other peregrine falcons managed to survive without help. Now, peregrine falcons in North America are no longer in danger. In fact, some peregrine falcons have moved to cities. To deter office workers from getting too close to the birds, companies have adopted the practice of setting up video cameras that let people watch them safely.

## 1. What was killing the peregrine falcons?

## 2. What happened to the falcons in the end?