

Animal Rights is of the Left



A Leftist's Critique
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"Whether you realize it or not — and I don't care what your politics are — this movement is a left-wing movement.

(...) Look at the values we embrace: equality, democracy, inclusivity, non-discrimination, non-hierarchy, rights, justice, peace, and non-violence.

These are left-wing values. They come from the radical, progressive, and liberal movements of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries.

ONE STRUGGLE, ONE FIGHT!
HUMAN FREEDOM, ANIMAL RIGHTS!



Right-wing values emphasize hierarchy, military, family, nation, borders, war, and security. That's not what we talk about. We talk about the opposite. Our heritage, whether we realize it or not, comes from the left. You can be a conservative and still recognize that.

We're trying to build on the limitations of the left — but to extend the moral trajectory beyond where it says it stops, toward a planetary ethic. So this is a left-wing movement, and there is a natural opening between us and the left.

There's a contradiction there.

But we also critique the left. Progressive thinkers talk about connections and dialectics, about capitalism and exploitation, yet they leave out the animal standpoint. They may address environmental issues, but not the animal question. You'll hear someone condemning capitalist oppression over lunch, asking for another bucket of chicken wings while talking about exploitation and the commodification of life.

In countless ways, the exploitation of animals rebounds on us and impacts us.

Animal Liberation is not a sufficient condition for social change, but it is a necessary one. **We will not have a revolution in any meaningful sense until we have Animal Liberation.**

We are not going to bypass the left or avoid the challenge of building alliances. But neither are we going to take a backseat to anyone's revolution. We will be in the front seat, driving full speed ahead toward social change."

TOTAL LIBERATION FOR ALL!

(...) **The fates of all life on this planet are interconnected. We're beginning to understand that what we do to animals, we do to ourselves and to the Earth.**

When humans hunt animals, they disrupt natural selection and degrade ecosystems necessary for their own survival. When they butcher animals by the tens of billions each year in factory farms, they poison the air and water, deplete aquifers, waste scarce resources, ravage rainforests, and turn grasslands into desert. It is a massive ecological and social catastrophe (..:) There are also clear links between meat consumption, agribusiness, resource inefficiency, and the growing potential for conflict.

When people say, 'They treated us like animals,' everyone reacts with sympathy — as if treating animals that way is acceptable. That reveals a deeper problem.

Western Marxist, anarchist, and socialist traditions have internalized speciesism and anthropocentrism.

They've championed science and technology but missed the animal rights revolution and the scientific advances in understanding animal intelligence. They still treat animals as inferior beings.

In that way, the left has absorbed one of the worst elements of Western ideology: the domination of nature."