

Hannah Ortega

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Should the global community be concerned with the ethical treatment of animals?

The global community should be apprehensive of the unfortunate treatment of animals.

To fully understand the research, defining the word ‘ethical’ is necessary. Ethical means of or relating to moral principles or the branch of knowledge dealing with these. (Ethical, 2002).

Animals worldwide are being mistreated especially when it comes to the management of animals in scientific experimentation, animals in zoos that are being stripped of “their” real world and mistreated for human amusement, and animals in factory farms that are abused and heavily medicated to quicken the process of retrieving meat for humans quicker, and cheaper.

Conversely, factory farming aids in feeding the rapidly swelling population of the world, and is beneficial in scientific innovations.

First and foremost, scientists along with several people believe that animals in scientific research is required to help us further our understanding in science and in the world. But most people don’t know that the animals that are used in these experimentations are suffering.

Bentham claims that

“Animals in labs live stressful, monotonous, and unnatural lives of daily confinement and deprivation. The only changes in their lives may come from...a research or testing protocol...or procedure whose end point is death.” (Bentham, 2015)

This represents that animals only look forward to, death, or testing protocol. All they do is stay in confined cages every single day of their life causing them to stress. The word ‘monotonous’, further explains what the animal’s lives are like, repeating what they do everyday, and no variety in what they do. The argument represented by the NEAVS, is very credible. Firstly, the foundation was established in 1895, it is dedicated to ending the use of animals in research, testing, and scientific education. Secondly, their advisory board is made up of professionals within the field, advocating the replacement of animals with modern alternatives that are ethically, humanely, and scientifically superior, making them a cogent source, but one sided in their point of view.

“They spend their lives in barren cages, unable to make choices or express natural behaviors...small, crowded cages...loud noise...create stress in animals who in turn show physical symptoms of the stress...Studies show that mice are capable of empathy and become even more stressed when witnessing other mice in distress.” (Bentham, 2015)

In this article, the ill-treatment of animals in scientific tests has been supported by the given knowledge. Most animals can't decide their own choices, to the point where they no longer express natural behaviors due to lack of space given and respect for these animals. Clearly shown in the quote above, animals do have feelings and express them like humans would if they were treated alike. Therefore, the international community ought to be acknowledged of the unethical treatment of animal's in scientific exploration.

In addition, animals in zoos should not be held in confined spaces, and stripped of their natural habitats, all for the entertainment of humans. As an illustration, in the article “Sad Eyes & Empty Lives (2009), discovered that zoos are required to have signs in front of animal enclosures to help the public classify animals, along with common information that they should gather. The article claims that,

“Signs on zoo enclosures can often give information...A CAPS study of public aquaria in the UK found that 41% of the individual animals on display had no signs identifying their species-the most basic of information.” (Sad Eyes & Empty Lives, 2009).

The CAPS foundation is the UK's longest-running charities working to protect animals since 1957, non-government funding protection society, however they have a distorted view when it comes to the protection of animals, which makes this source incontestable when discussing animal protection.

Another example of the destructive effects of animals in secluded enclosures for the enjoyment of individuals. Once animals have experienced what isn't normal to them they begin to suffer. According to Michelle Carr (2013),

Captive animals are deprived of everything that is natural and important to them, and as a result, they become bored and lonely and many suffer from a condition called “zoochosis.” ...captive animals rock and sway back and forth...seen the disease firsthand. This condition is so rampant in zoos that some zoos give animals a mood-altering drug, such as Prozac, because the public has started to catch on.

Although it is difficult to find the expertise of this author, the PETA foundation, which is the largest animal rights organization in the world, focuses on four areas in which the largest amounts of animals suffer the most, however the view is very partial, although they have 3 million members and supporters making them a sound reference.

Furthermore, supporters along with some zoos have been encouraging the end to holding polar bears enslaved in zoos, due to the lack of basic safety in zoo environments. According to Top ten reasons NOT to visit Europe’s “Top Ten Zoos” (2014),

Prague zoo is one of a decreasing number which hold polar bears captive. Campaigners and even some zoos have advocated for an end...it is argued that even their most basic welfare needs cannot be met in such an environment. Studies have shown that captive polar bears are forced to live in a space a whopping 1,000,000 times smaller than their natural home range. Yet, while they remain a great draw for visitors and some zoos will inevitably continue to keep them.

The CAPS foundation works towards a world without cages and working on issues affecting individual animals held captive, though very biased dealing with the dispute of animal protection, as a result of the cruel and unreasonable treatment of animals in the UK, constructing a credible resource. This represent how vital the treatment of animals is irrational and selfish.

Equally important, animals in factory farms are suffering due to unsanitary and unreasonable usage of medication, which not only affects animals but humans as well. For instance, whatever is given to animals, such as medication causing destructive affects such as growing unnaturally fast, also affect our health when consuming animals that have been produced in factory farms. In Indonesia, according to Tom Levitt (2011), multimedia journalist and editor specializing in food, farming and environmental issues,

...of the risks posed by high-density chicken and duck operations as well as the rapid global movement of both people and livestock...Large-scale irrigation designed to boost agricultural productivity...has created conditions that facilitate the establishment of disease...with occasional outbreaks killing hundreds of people along with thousands of animals.

Tom is a University of London educated master of science and food policy, and a Central Lancashire educated master of arts and journalism, yet is emotionally tied to animals, farming and environmental issues, nevertheless has been featured on a variety of publications such as BBC Radio and Huffington Post, making him a perspicacious source.

Another key point, companies only endeavor the use of factory farms because they can bring in more money than they output. According to Factory Farming: Misery for Animals (2015),

...factory farming industry strives to maximize output while minimizing costs-always at the animals' expense... giant corporations...found that they can make more money by squeezing as many animals as possible into tiny spaces, even though many of the animals die from disease and infection.

Although the PETA foundation has a one sided view on animal treatment, it is the largest animal rights organization in the world, that focusing on the four areas that animals suffer the most. Due to rapidly increasing population, factory farming causes yet another form of animal cruelty, that they have to endure. Finding another answer to dealing with feeding the rising population without mistreating animals in the process.

On the other hand, factory farming assists in feeding the growing population. Factory farming produces meats in masses which is cheaper for the consumer, as well as the factory farm. Take the case of Crystal Lombardo (2015), seasoned writer at Vision Launch and 10-year experience,

Factory farming naturally lowers the prices for a society because it is being produced in bulk formats. The process of farming becomes cheaper than what the average family farmer can provide, so the factory farm gets profits while the customer benefits at the grocery store.

Although it is difficult to find the expertise the author has on the subject area of factory farming, yet her work is unprejudiced and over 500,000 monthly readers reading her blogs.

Another example of positive affects of factory farming. In Brazil the production of eggs has soared to an enormous number, and the plea for has risen in the past four decades, causing the development of factory farms. According to Feeding 9 Billion-National Geographic (2014), that has been around since 1888, though emotionally tied to the environment and inspire people to care about the planet, nevertheless they are the largest nonprofit scientific and educational institution in the world, thus creating a staunch source.

At Granja Mantiqueira in Brazil eight million hens lay 5.4 million eggs a day. Conveyor belts whisk the eggs to a packaging facility. Demand for meat has tripled in the developing world in four decades, while egg consumption has increased sevenfold, driving a huge expansion of large-scale animal operations.

Thus, proving that factory farming is, at the same time, helpful and not just useless. If the world population didn't grow as quickly, we probably would have never needed this immoral system.

It is also evident that animals in scientific study is beneficial for new breakthroughs.

According to the article Benefits (2006),

The House of Lords Select Committee, the Parliamentary Animal Procedures Committee and the independent Nuffield Council on Bioethics all concluded that testing on animals is a scientifically sound method, has yielded great results in the past, and is crucial for future advances.... Animals also have improved healthcare and a longer lifespan. Farm animals, household pets, wild species and endangered species are all benefiting from the research conducted through animals.

Although the author of this article isn't mention, the website Pro-Test was formed in 2006, raising public awareness of the benefits of animals in research, yet there is no evidence of cerebral expertise, nevertheless they stand for science, making them a steadfast source for a pro animal testing argument.

Another case of the favorable outcomes of animals in trials explains that animals research has furthered our findings in all existing classes.

It's obvious that animal research benefits all living species and that we are all able to live longer, healthier, happier lives because of it. In fact, 71 of the Noble Prizes for medicine won in the last 103 years were awarded to scientists who used animals in their research. (Benefits, 2006).

As I have noted above, the using of animals in factory farms and scientific innovations is a necessity for the world to strive and further explore scientific answers.

In the investigation of the treatment of animals, I have discovered that the treatment of animals is a vaster subject than I had anticipated. I knew animals were being abused as pets and used for scientific experimentation, but was unaware of the maltreatment of animals when being raised for food and experiments. My view of the treatment of animals has completely changed since the beginning of my research I believe that we should continue experimenting with animals but with certain limits for the animal's welfare. I think that abuse of animals in factory farming should come to an end, and we should begin to find less harmful ways to help feed the growing population without harming the animals. I contemplate that people should become more aware of what they are eating and what company they are buying from, so we can end their funding in the unethical production in cuisine.

In the final analysis, the unethical treatment of animals has been proven to be unreasonable and unfair, because of the unreasonable experiments that are done with animals, the cruelty and selfishness in caging in animals for our amusement, and the overly medicated and abused animals in factory farming, contrariwise factory farming has helped feed the people worldwide quickly and valuable in the findings of scientific breakthroughs.

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