Contemporary Moral Problems

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Where or not animals are worthy of any moral consideration? Yes. How much?

* **The Equality of Women**
  + **In 1792 Mary Wollstonecraft wrote A Vindication of the Rights of Woman**
  + **Slippery Slope**
    - Thomas Taylor, a Cambridge philosopher wrote a response saying “A Vindication of the Rights of brutes”
      * *If women have equal rights, then dogs, pigs, and horses have equal rights.*
      * *Dogs, pigs, and horses don’t have equal rights.*
      * *Therefore, women do not have equal rights*
    - There’s no slippery slope because there are features only humans have.
* **The Principle of Equal Consideration**
  + **Requires that the suffering of a being “be counted equally with the like suffering of any other being”**
  + **3 Points**
* Does not require equal treatment, but equal consideration
* Not based upon the equality of abilities, but interests
* To have interests = to be ‘sentient’ = the capacity to suffer
* **Speciesism**
  + **Favoring the interests of one’s own species over those of other species**
  + **3 Examples in practice**
    - Factory farming, experimentation, and product testing
    - All of these examples have systematic disregard of the suffering of non-humans

10 fill in the blank, 10 out of 14 short answer, 3 out of 5 essay questions

A justification for Speciesism

Uniquely human capacities, we’re the only ones for moral consideration or higher moral consideration