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### Animal Abuse for Food

Would you suddenly care if you knew the way animals were treated on factory farms? It is obvious that thousands, if not millions, of people are not aware of what the animals that produce meat, eggs and milk actually go through before people can purchase them. The way animals are treated on factory farms is harsh and inhumane. The sad part is, most of us are oblivious to what they go through in order for us to consume them as part of our diets.

For starters, the chickens most humans consume do not produce both eggs and meat. There are two types of chickens we consume, egg-laying hens and meat chickens. Unfortunately both breeds of chickens suffer horrible treatment. According to an article by the ASPCA, “approximately 8.5 billion chickens are killed for their meat every year, while another 300 million chickens are used in egg production” (“A Closer Look at Animals on Factory Farms”). This proves the extremely large amount of chickens, both egg-laying and meat producing, that are killed annually just for human consumption. The numbers are extremely high and considering the amount of human beings that consume this bird, they are constantly breeding to keep feeding us. Additionally, it is obvious that every chicken that is used for food is genetically manipulated and bred. They do this in order to get a good amount of meat and eggs. The same article from ASPCA.org states, “each has been strategically bred for hyper-production:

egg-laying hens for high egg volume and ‘meat’ chickens for maximum breast meat” (“A Closer Look at Animals on Factory Farms”). This exemplifies how the two types of chickens have been bred a specific way to produce the most that their bodies can. It makes me wonder how far some people will go just to get something they want.

It is nothing out of the blue that every animal bred for food is injected and manipulated genetically with antibiotics to make it grow to a certain size so that it can serve many uses. They undergo the process of being fed or injected with unnatural substances. An article published by an animal rights activist from Peta conveys, “antibiotics are used to make animals grow faster and to keep them alive in the unsanitary conditions” (“Factory Farming: Misery for Animals”). This is to show how horribly animals are kept considering they must be given antibiotics to grow and stay alive in the conditions of the factory farms. They’re kept in tight cages in spots where they can barely move, this leads to overcrowding. In addition, it’s insane how the animals on these factory farms must be manipulated a certain way just to produce what they normally would not if they were in their natural homes. The same article states, “most factory farm animals have been genetically manipulated to grow larger or to produce more milk or eggs than they naturally would” (“Factory Farming: Misery for Animals”). This explains how the animals’ bodies are forced to produce large quantities of eggs and milk, a lot more than they can naturally due to the manipulation they undergo. That’s just to show how inhumane the process really is.

Moreover, the cruel process doesn’t quite end there. The slaughtering process just gets worse. The ways are inhumane and it’s done this way to just save money. An article from Sraproject.org explains, “...industrial slaughterhouses kill and process thousands of animals at an extremely rapid rate to save pennies” (“Factory Farms Abuse Animals”). The reason that the

industrial slaughterhouses kill the thousands of animals quickly is due to wanting to save as much money as they can. Every little penny counts. Furthermore, it is shocking how unsanitary the meat that is consumed for food is before we can serve it at our dining tables. The same article states, “meat is also commonly contaminated by feces and other bodily fluids during the slaughter process, a dangerous problem that is increasing as industrial slaughterhouses continue to speed up their kill lines” (“Factory Farms Abuse Animals”). This only proves how we are oblivious to what the meat we purchase for consumption actually goes through before we get it at supermarkets considering we still purchase these products.

It is no surprise that factory farming has its consequences. Everything becomes affected, planet Earth, humans, and of course the livestock. Soil becomes contaminated, there is an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, along with a lot of water wastage. An article published by The Huffington Post states, “the truth is not only do factory farms lead to the mistreatment, suffering and death of billions of animals every year, but they also cause soil contamination, loss of biodiversity, greenhouse gas emissions and land, energy and water wastage” (“It’s Time to End Factory Farming”). That’s to exemplify the negative effects of factory farming; if it continues to be this way who knows what will occur in the future with our home planet? Furthermore, the unsanitary ways of factory farming plays a role with the health of us humans. Many of the substances the livestock is injected and fed ends up in the dairy, eggs and meat we consume. This could have negative side effects on our health. The same article conveys, “to make matters worse, consuming meat and dairy products containing hormones, antibiotics, pesticides and dioxins have been found to increase the risk of cancer, heart problems and other degenerative diseases in humans” (It’s Time to End Factory Farming). This indicates the health

risks that factory farming creates, many of them are deadly. This is a call for us to pay attention to what is coming out of the industrial animal agriculture ways.

Unfortunately, the truth is most people don't care about the cruel process that animals go through to become food just as long as they get to eat. It's not right though. Individuals should care; animals should not have to suffer such inhumane treatment. It's ok if animals are being consumed for food but they should not be treated badly because they are conscious beings after all. They feel pain the same way we humans do. The point is that we should become educated on what really occurs behind the closed doors of the factory farms. How would it feel if we lived in a world where humans were the ones receiving the cruel treatment for animals to consume?

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