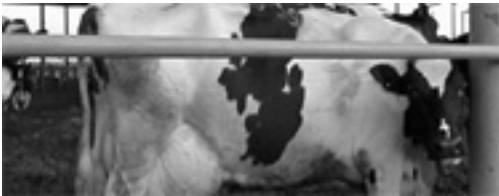


mil k

A cow, as any female mammal, only produces milk after parturition. Then, the calf is taken from his mother – the males to be used in the meat industry and the females in the milk industry. The separation between the calf and his mother is a tough experience to the nursing calf. And the mother may also express its agony through crying and mooing.

Through "cultivation", the farmers increased the daily amount of milk being pumped out from the cow to more than forty liters, while only a few decades ago the daily amount was no more than eight liters. The cow's body wasn't adjusted to the changes and as a result the cows suffer from injuries and disabilities. The enormous strain to the udders causes blood vessels to rupture. When the tendons that hold the udders loosen – the udders fall, the nipples get infected and inflammations and edemas rapidly develop. "Redundant" nipples may exacerbate these infections; therefore they are cut off using sharp scissors, without painkillers.

Even though the life expectancy of the cow is more than twenty years, cows in modern farm are slaughtered at the age of three to six. Many cows collapse from exhaustion before reaching the slaughterhouse, so they are pulled with a metal chain or carried with a fork lift, which leads to injuries, strains and fractures.



Animal Rights

With time, the evolution of morals gave way to what we today take for granted – human rights. The concept of rights stems from the long struggle against ongoing oppression of various groups, the trampling of the weak, and abuse of any one we can exploit. The idea of bestowing rights upon individuals and groups developed in order to secure what does not happens in nature, where the strong survives and the weak dies. We all aspire to be part of society where those who are not strong would also receive protection, a society where those who do not possess the best qualities to survive would not be neglected, rather the opposite: they would receive aid and support; they would be recognized as a part of the society's population, in need of help and support, and it would be, as such, our duty, as a society, to help them.

The moral and conscience development of humans against their nature created a society with the potential to create a better reality. Human rights are the proof of this progress (despite the violation of them in many places in the world, including Israel) but the road to a better reality is still very long.

Vegetarian nutrition is healthier

We can easily supply the body with all the needed nutritional components through a vegetarian diet. There are many vegetarian sources for vitamins and minerals preferable to meat, eggs or milk, both because of the higher vitamin percentage and because vegetarian products do not contain cholesterol, lactose, hormones or antibiotics (which are injected to animals in the industrial farms).

Protein and iron are plentiful in soy, tofu, hummus, beans, lentils, nuts and tehana. B12 can be found in enriched foods (according to the consumption label) and in nutritional supplements.

Meat, eggs and milk don't contain nutritional fibers or complex carbohydrate at all, and are full of

Animal abuse is another type of discrimination. Humans hurt members of other species because they hold to the views of speciesism - an ideology of preferring your own kind over others. The speciesist gives preference to the interests of humans, the same as white racists give preference to interests of their own race, the whites.

There is a distinct similarity between chauvinism, racism and speciesism: the use of this or other arbitrary difference as justification to disregard the rights of another. The differences between men and women (or blacks and whites), like the differences between humans and other animals, are not relevant to the question of their rights. As the English philosopher Jeremy Bentham put it: "The question is not, 'Can they reason?' nor, 'Can they talk?' but rather, 'Can they suffer?'"

About Us

The last two decades have brought about the establishment of many diverse groups and organizations, all of which share the common goal of bringing about the liberation of animals. Despite the long road ahead, the struggle's progress is accelerating.

"A.L.I. – Animal Liberation Israel" is an organization for animal rights established in 2005. Our goal is to make people hear the cry of animals exploited by humans in the different industries in which they are abused: animal products, experiments, clothing and entertainment. We see the fight for animal rights as linked to the struggle to create a fair and just society. A society that respects the rights of every living creature capable of feeling pain, of every living creature who naturally aspires to be free; a society free of suffering, exploitation and oppression of the creatures living in it, humans and non-humans alike

We established the group to act as a center of information for anyone interested in acting for a social change for animal liberation, and to constitute a center of influence in Israeli society for promoting animal rights. We encourage and call on every men and women who identify with our beliefs and who are looking for courses of action to help animals to join us. We encourage them to take an active part in making history and the fight for the protection of innocent.

saturated fat and cholesterol. Their consumption raises the risk of heart diseases and cancer, which are responsible for about 70% of the deaths not caused by natural causes in our society. The American Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the American Dietetic Association (ADA) declare vegetarian nutrition as both healthier and helpful in preventing heart diseases. The conclusion of Dr. Collin Campbell – the director of a study of 6,500 Chinese that found a strong correlation between meat consumption and incidents of heart disease and cancer – was that "the vast majority, perhaps 80%-90%, of all cancers, cardiovascular and other forms of degenerative illness can be prevented, at least to a very old age, simply by adopting a plant-based diet."



Each and every one of us can make a difference and change this horrific reality. Consumption of meat, eggs and milk directly finances the killing and torture of animals. This abuse is the most severe form of abuse, both in its extent and intensity. The most fundamental action we can take for animals is to stop consuming products produced from their flesh, and to join the boycott on these "death industries".

We cannot justify the continuation of animal abuse when the purpose is minor and temporary enjoyment, as there are excellent products, most of which are healthier, that are not produced from living animals. All that is needed to prevent lives of suffering and cruel deaths is to reach your hand to the vegetarian products shelf.

Beyond the unwillingness to take an active part in the exploitation of animals (an average Israeli eats around 4000 animal during his lifetime), choosing vegetarianism is a moral decision shared with more than half a million Israelis, and many millions more around the world. The transition to vegetarianism is the practical implementation towards changing our views of animals as resources in the hands of humans, and it is a part of a worldwide process of distancing ourselves from the indifference to animal suffering, and recognizing of their right to live a life free of exploitation.



www.free.org.il/english

Email: shevi_liberation@yahoo.com

Phone number: 054-2056629

A Meal of Flesh and Blood



Each and every one of us is shocked and horrified when presented with a case of abuse of a helpless animal, and it's obvious that animal abuse is a horrific phenomenon that has no place in a civilized society. What is still not obvious is that, contrary to popular belief, most animal abuse is not performed randomly, but as a part of a violent industry subsidized by the government and financed by us, the consumers.

This is an industry that puts millions of shekels into the pockets of its owners, while going to great lengths to hide its true colors.



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COWS

Cows and bulls are confined for fattening about four months before slaughter. Their heads are restrained over the manger for many hours. The calves suffer dearly while their horns are severed and they are branded, all without pain killers. The castration causes the bull pain and trauma: the scrotum is sliced open and each testicle is ripped out separately. The branding is done on bare and shaved skin using either hot or cold cautery. During the branding, the cattle are restrained using a metal ring driven through the nostrils.

Tens of thousands of calves are imported to Israel from Australia every year by ships, on a three weeks journey. Many calves reach the port suffering from dehydration and heat stroke, wounded, sick, or even dead.

The cows who reach the slaughter house can smell the blood and hear the cries of their friends. Their resistance meets sticks, electric shocks, iron poles and kicks. In Israel, the animals are slaughtered fully conscious, upside down. The animal, whose joints may have been strained, squirm from pain and fear that the slaughterers must restrain its neck or grasp its nostrils using tongs in order to slice its throat

chickens

After hatching, the chicks are dumped into closed, windowless structures. These chicks are genetically distorted through "cultivation", which aims to expedite their natural growth rate. The growth is also expedited through drugs, concentrated food and artificial illumination, that prevents sleep and increases feeding. The genetic "cultivation" has distorted the proportion between body parts: "profitable" limbs (muscles and breast) have been enlarged, while "redundant" limbs (bones and feet) have been reduced in size. As a result, the chickens can't support their body weight, and 90% of them suffer disabilities and painful legs distortions.



The heart and lungs are also too small and unable to supply sufficient oxygen to the rapidly growing muscle cells.

The chickens wallow in their excrement all their lives. Ammonia fumes make breathing harder and cause even skin wounds and blindness during the winter. The chickens scratch their eyes with their wings and squeal in pain. Continuous lying in rotting litter causes wounds, bedsores and burns to the legs. With growth, the density increases and the chickens are forced to trample one another in order to reach food and water.

The density, suffocation, heat and ear-deafening noise causes the chickens high stress, which in turn causes violence and more injuries.

The transportation of chickens to slaughter begins with grasping them by the feet, upside down, several chickens in each hand, and hurling them into tight cages. Fractures and strains to the legs and wings, thirst and suffocation are but a few of the injuries caused during loading and transportation. At the slaughterhouse, the chickens' necks are cut and they are left to bleed and squirm in a bucket or hanging from the conveyor. It may take the chickens up to six minutes to die after they are slaughtered, because of lateral blood vessels supplying blood to the brain.

fish

Every person in Israel eats an average of 2000 fish during the course of his life, but actually responsible for twice as many deaths. For every fish that is marketed, another "non profitable" fish dies. Fish are caught at sea, lakes and rivers or bred in pools or cages. All these methods are cruel to the fish and destructive to the environment. In this struggle we must stand beside those whose voices can not be heard.

There is much evidence to the fact that fish feel pain: their nervous system is similar to that of other vertebrates (including humans); their bodies release pain killing substances (such as enkephalin and endorphin) when tissues are damaged and their behavior indicates pain sensations. Over one million fish die slowly from trolling every year along the shores of Israel. The hook sticks through the fish's maw or swallowed and injures its entrails. Trawling also causes injuries and scales lose. Ascending the fish from deep waters to the surface causes gills bleeding and inflation of the body: the sudden decrease of pressure causes the gas within the fish's body to expand and cause severe pain.



Fish that are bred in pools suffer tremendous density, 17,500 times more than in natural lakes. The water volume per fish is less than three bottles. The fish suffer suffocation, skin inflammations, open sores, parasites and their gills are ravaged. The pools are contaminated from pesticides, chlorine, ammonia and other chemicals that hurt the fish's eyes and may induce blindness. Fish that try to escape from cages at open sea meet a grid that scratches them and causes internal hemorrhaging. The spawning is expedited through methods of coercion: The fish are starved, injected with hormones and their eggs are extorted, causing stress, injuries and internal hemorrhaging.



calves

In order that his flesh be white and tender, the calf is fed low iron diet and is locked down in a tight crate. In an attempt to retrieve some iron, the calf licks the iron bolts and tries to lick his own excrement. He cannot turn around, stretch, lick himself or lie comfortably – thus prevented to move his muscles, keeping his flesh tender.

In his last days of life, the crate is so tight that the calf can barely stand. The massive heat causes the calf constant thirst and perspiring, but he doesn't receive water so he will have to sip large quantities of the liquid fattening mixture. In the few minutes a day when they are allowed to stretch their heads outside the crate in order to eat, the calves usually touch and lick each other. Though they receive many drugs, the calves suffer from chronic diarrhea, ringworm, sores, blood poisoning, anemia and breathing disorders.

pigs

At any given moment, about 80,000 pigs are bred in factory farms around Israel. Locked down, the pigs become aggressive and violent due to density and lack of stimulations. In order to control this, the pig's tails are cut without pain killers. Some farmers also sever the pig's fangs.

A concrete or grid floor makes cleaning easier but causes posture difficulties and legs distortions. An American pig farmer commented about the decision to choose these types of floors: we are not paid to breed animal with good posture, we are paid by weight.



A zenith of cruelty are the pregnancy and nursing facilities against which large campaigns are conducted abroad. The breeders fear that because of the extreme density, the sow will crush her young during nursing. Logic dictates that supplying them with more space is the required solution; however, the breeders choose an opposite solution: no space at all. Through all four months of pregnancy, the sow is locked down in a tight stall, in which she can only move one step in every direction. But even this minimal exercise is prevented during the months of nursing. The sow is restrained down with metal bars. Animal activists documented in the Lahav farm using a hidden camera that the pressure on the sow is so intense that she can't even turn around or rise.

eggs

After hatching, the chicks are assorted: the males, who are unprofitable, are exterminated. They are thrown into tanks, in which they are crushed to death, suffocate or slowly wither from hunger. The females are locked in tight metal cages, in which they can't even stretch their wings.

The cage floor is a diagonal grid, which causes the chickens injuries, legs distortions and stress. Under these conditions the chickens become aggressive; to prevent them from pecking each other, the farmers cut off their beaks. Debeaking is preformed using a hot metal blade, and is painful and traumatic since the beak tissue consists nerve cells. When the egg production decreases, the farmers expedite laying through a total prevention of food and water and a total darkening of the chicken coop for ten days. During the next month, the chickens are kept under severe hunger conditions. As a result, the weak chickens die, which is desired by the farmers, since their production is low anyway.

ÊEggs that are marketed as "free eggs" arrive from farms in which the chickens are not locked down in tight cages, though they are locked down in a cabin, which may have an exit to a yard. Never the less, the male extermination, beaks cutting, aggressiveness, laying expediting and killing of the weak chickens still prevail.

