

TAKING ANIMAL INTERESTS... SERIOUSLY

Each year, worldwide, billions of animals are killed, exploited and forced to endure neglect and pain; whether it's for:

- Their skins (leather),
- Their hairs (fur),
- Their flesh (meat),
- Their breastmilk (milk),
- Their ovules (eggs),
- Slave labour,
- "Sport".
- Amusement.

Ireland is no different. In fact we have a number of industries set up with no other purpose than to exploit and kill animals.

From the dairy/egg/meat industry to the vivisection industry and hunting/racing lobbies, these industries/lobbies will inflict suffering on these animals as they profit off their backs.

PLEASURE, TRADITION, CONVENIENCE

Although we all agree that it is morally wrong to inflict "unnecessary" suffering on animals, most if not all of the reasons for exploiting and killing animals is for our *pleasure*, *tradition* or our *convenience*, in other words, unnecessary.

Because we live in a society that discriminates against the interests of other animal species (speciesism), we ignore time and again that other animals care about what happens to themselves.

All animals have an ability to feel pain and a desire to avoid it. Cows, hens, sheep, pigs - all animals - have nerves, memories, fears, desires, needs and interests, like us. They are somebodies, not somethings. They should have the right not to be used as someone else's property, just like we do.

But because we do not take their basic rights seriously, their most crucial interests are overlooked for the most trivial interests of humans.



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