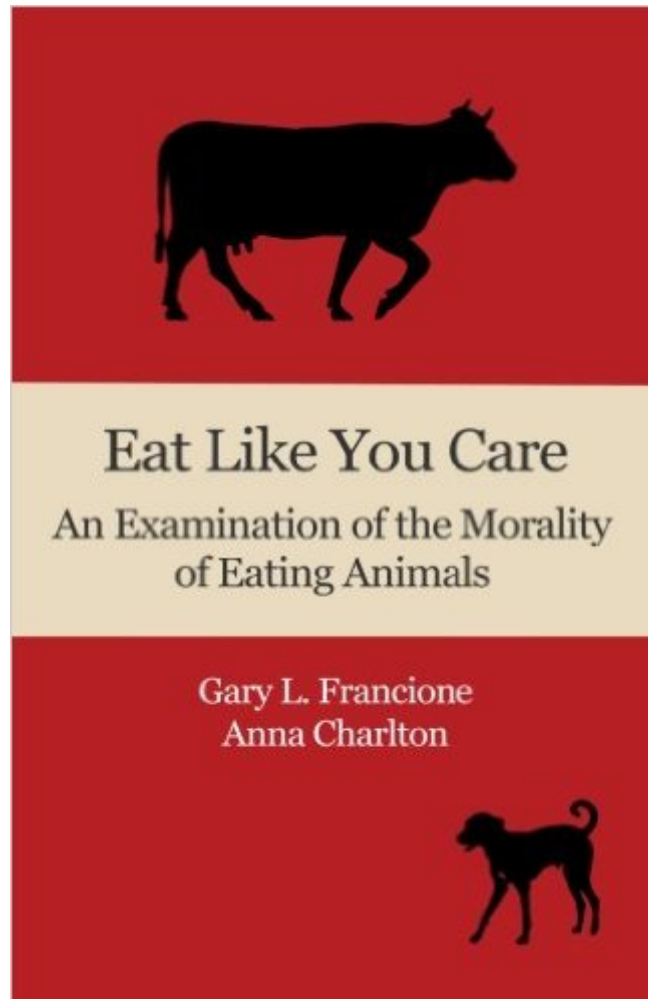


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Eat Like You Care: An Examination Of The Morality Of Eating Animals



Synopsis

SPECIAL OFFER Take \$1 OFF per copy purchased through CreateSpace (<https://www.createspace.com/4423398>) with discount code: 9B6RZRQM This book puts the issue of eating animals squarely on the table. We all claim to care about animals and to regard them as having at least some moral value. We all claim to agree that it's wrong to inflict "unnecessary" suffering and death on animals and "whatever disagreement we may have about when animal use is necessary" we all agree that the suffering and death of animals cannot be justified by human pleasure, amusement, or convenience. We condemn Michael Vick for dogfighting precisely because we feel strongly that any pleasure that Vick got from this activity could not possibly justify what he did. So how can we justify the fact that we kill many billions of land animals and fish every year for food? However "humanely" we treat and kill these animals, the amount of animal suffering we cause is staggering. Yet no one maintains that animal foods are necessary for optimal health. Indeed, mounting empirical evidence points to animal foods being detrimental for human health. But however you evaluate that evidence, there can be no serious doubt that we can have excellent health with a vegan diet. There is also broad consensus that animal agriculture is an ecological disaster. Animal agriculture is responsible for water pollution, air pollution, deforestation, soil erosion, inefficient use of plant protein and water, and all sorts of other environmental harms. The best justification we have for the unimaginable amount of suffering and death that we impose on animals is that they taste good. We enjoy the taste of animal foods. But how is this any different from Michael Vick claiming that his dogfighting operation was justifiable because he enjoyed watching dogs fight? Vick liked sitting around a pit watching animals fight. We enjoy sitting around a summer barbecue pit roasting the corpses of animals who had lives and deaths that were as bad as, if not worse than, Vick's dogs. What is the difference between Michael Vick and those of us who eat animal foods? This book shows there is no difference, or at least not any difference that matters morally. Prof. Gary L. Francione and Prof. Anna Charlton argue that if you think animals matter morally "if you reject the idea that animals are just things" your own beliefs require that you stop eating animal products. There is nothing "extreme" about a vegan diet; what is extreme is the inconsistency between what we say we believe and how we act where animals are concerned. Many of us are uneasy thinking about the animals who end up on our plates. We may have thought about stopping our consumption of animal products, but there are many excuses that have kept us from doing so. The authors explore the 30+ excuses they have heard as long-time vegans and address each one, showing why these excuses don't work. Packed with clear, commonsense thinking on animal ethics, without jargon or complicated theory, this book will change the way you

think about what you eat.

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Customer Reviews

In this remarkably clear book, the authors argue persuasively that we don't need to embrace an animal rights position to see that veganism is a moral obligation; all we need to do is to accord animals some moral value. They argue that if animals matter at all and are not merely things, we cannot justify imposing harm on animals if the only benefit is our amusement or pleasure; and they use the case of Michael Vick to show that we all agree with that position. The authors go on to argue that our consuming animals cannot be meaningfully distinguished from what Vick did, in that we consume animal products only because we enjoy the taste as there is no necessity to do so. The authors are longtime vegan advocates who have produced a short and readable book that will equip every animal advocate with the necessary arguments to make *not* being a vegan look extreme!

Gary Steiner
John Howard Harris
Professor of Philosophy
Bucknell University

As a vegan of 27 years for ethical reasons, i.e., because of the wish not to harm animals for trivial reasons, such as taste preferences, I believed I had heard all the arguments well-meaning meat eaters bring forth. I say "well-meaning" meat eaters because if somebody does not care about animals, there is no argument that would convince that person to stop eating animals. This book starts from the same premise: do you care about animals? If yes, then you should try to become vegan. If not, skip it. Not all well-meaning meat eaters use all of the reasons rebutted in this book,

but a plethora of anti-animal trolls has provided us with lots of "buts". You have heard some: but what about plants, but what about predators, but what about evolution, but what about this holy book, but what about protein, but what about cheese, but, but, but. If you cling to one of those butts against your love or pity or concern for animals, this book will help you make the transition to a vegan diet and bring peace to your conscience. If you are already vegan, with non vegan friends and relatives, this book will answer all their "buts", so at least you will not have to keep repeating yourself! Just find their favorite "but" reason in this book and pull the answer out, a couple of pages long or less. Those who are able to abandon irrational or conflicting beliefs and choices (love animals but eat them), will be able to make the transition to a vegan diet. The others will know that their "but" is rebutted and may be they will stop bring it out every time they see you!

I purchased this book and it answered every question I had been struggling with. Especially on how to communicate with those in my life who defend eating animals. I became vegan only about six months ago and to me it is how I should have lived the first 53 years of my life. I have never eaten and felt better and I am always surprised on how everyone reacts around me. Sometimes I just don't know how to respond at all, or don't know how to respond correctly. I want to be a kind and gentle vegan and this book is truly making it better for me.

This book is a beautifully written analysis of the moral position animals are granted in our society and the various excuses we use to justify our consumption of animal products. The language is simple and the explanations crystal clear. While it is not weighed down by numerous references, the authors provide the readers with credible sources, allowing them to verify the information for themselves and draw their own conclusions. In addition to discussing the ethical considerations of using animals for food, this book also addresses any nutritional concerns one might have about adopting a vegan diet and the environmental consequences of animal agriculture. Again, the authors point the readers towards excellent sources of information. If you consider yourself to be committed to justice and/or non-violence, or are simply someone who enjoys having their own ideas challenged, this it is a must read. I highly recommend that everyone read this book and other works by these brilliant and wonderfully dedicated educators who are undoubtedly changing the world.

I just finished reading this and I have to say that was a great read. Easy to understand and very clear, it nevertheless demolishes every "but.." objection I have heard people raise in relation to justifying eating animals. it focuses exclusively on using animals for food, and leaves discussion

about animals used for clothing and experiments for another time (a sequel?). This makes sense as the majority of animals killed are used for food, and while people are still eating animals it makes little difference what shoes they wear. I hope there is an affordable print version available soon, I would buy many copies and give them to lots of not-yet-vegan family and friends. Any thinking person should read this book.

This book gives relevant, real-life reasons why, when given honest consideration, we have a moral obligation to 'leave animals off the menu'. The authors demonstrate logically, factually and unapologetically, that in order to live in alignment with our ethics, we need to examine our thinking about farmed animals and our constructed justifications for eating them. In this text we are given clear, reasoned, responses to all the defences we have to eating animals. These answers resonate not only with vegans but with anybody who has a desire to learn beyond the status-quo, especially when lives and our own morals are at stake. This book would be a welcome addition to a vegan, philosophy, social justice or animals rights library however, I would strongly recommend it to anybody who enjoys reading thought-provoking and thoroughly researched writing about ethos and ethics. Eat Like You Care will challenge your beliefs and behaviours but ultimately leave you feeling empowered, inspired and informed.

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