

# Factory Farming

A normal day for Cody Carlson, an undercover investigator working at Country Views Family Farms, consisted of many unethical, grueling events. "In the morning, I administered shots of tetracycline and other steroids to several dozen sows and pigs that were flagged as sick. Next, I removed all the piglets that died since yesterday, and marked the cause of death on the daily tally. Most were "laid ons" (they had been crushed under their immobilized mothers). At eight, I would watch my co-workers tail dock and castrate (the cutting of tails and removal of male reproductive organs) 300 newborn piglets with no pain medication. A couple of the pigs ruptured their organs, and they were carried by one leg to the death cart (a mobile bin that suffocates pigs slowly). By nine, they would sort the pigs, and the ones not growing fast enough would be chucked into the cart to suffocate with the rest. At the end of the day, everyone converged in the Gestation Barn to perform artificial insemination. That day alone, 150 sows were inseminated" (Carlson). These events that Cody Carlson has witnessed are a usual occurrence in farms around the nation. The familiar neighborhood ranch is now developing into appalling Corporate factory farms, not only resulting in unethical treatment and slaughter of helpless animals, but irreversible destruction of our planet and the starvation of our own population.

Great example, but quote is too long. Shorten or paraphrase

HOOK: STORY

PIVOT SENTENCE

THESIS

As the demand for cheap meat like poultry rises, so does the supply, resulting in companies treating innocent chickens as lifeless products that will make them the most money. Half of all chicks born are male. They are deemed "worthless" because they do not grow fast enough or produce enough meat to

Effective Topic sent.

Needs trans.

make a profit. Right when they hatch, they're separated from their siblings, and

Source?

tumble on top of each other down long conveyor belts where they are filled in

heavy duty trash bags, and thrown away to suffocate and die. If the factory farm

is running low on funds, they will even resort to crushing the tiny chicks with

grinding machines, and then feed their pulverized bodies to their mothers and sisters

Is this your word or do you need quotes around it?

Needs transition

sisters ("Why Vegan"). While the female chicks watch as their brothers die, they

get off with the worst fate. "Caged hens are crammed five to seven birds into wire

mesh cages stacked one on top of another. The birds are forced to stand on a

sloping wire-mesh floor which cuts and deforms their sensitive feet. Chickens

often get their feet stuck, are defecated on by the chickens constrained above

them, and often live with the rotting corpses of chickens who have died in these

horrifying conditions ("Why Vegan."). All living beings, even chickens, deserve

the right to stand on solid ground, to feel the cool grass, and run without fear of

Commentary

death. Outside of the constant stress of factory farms, chickens will scavenge for

food in their community of friends. A Hen will cluck to her chicks that lie safely in

their eggs, and usually they will peep back. No one's life should be caged, so

why should theirs? More than seven billion chickens are killed each year for our

consumption ("Chickens used for food"). To a company, that's a profit, but to

chickens, that's their life. Nice concluding sentence.

Much the same, as chickens are used for eggs, there are no laws protecting

AWK TRANS.

the rights of Dairy Cows; therefore, cows in company farms live in a life of

constant pain and death. "By giving the cows high-energy food and injecting

Trans. needed (For example,) Address expert in the lead-in.

them with growth hormones, farmers can get more milk from their cows. The

Who is Gene? What are his credentials?

average cow today produces nearly one hundred pounds of milk per day, ten

proper citation  
No author =  
(\*title).

times what she would produce naturally. Although cows can live twenty or more years, many factory-bred cows can barely walk by their fourth birthday”(Gene).

Like all mammals, dairy cows must be impregnated in order to produce milk.

Cows in the dairy industry spend their lives in a constant cycle of impregnation, birth, and milking with just a few short months of rest between pregnancies

(“Cows Used for Dairy.”). These cows’ one purpose in life is to make us happy, and to make us satisfied. Outside of the factory farms, cows are gentle giants

that are curious and clever. The mothers maintain strong maternal bonds with their calf just like humans do, so it is horrendous when right as the mother gives birth her baby is taken from her. Cows can be heard bellowing for their lost child all through the night, as the day-old male calf is stuffed and chained in a crate listening to his mother’s cries. The young calf will then be skinned for our shoes,

and after the mom is spent she will die for our hamburger. There is no such thing as a “happy cow” in this sort of industry, and maybe there never will be. *Again, strong concluding sentence.*

We are not only hurting other species by consuming the “western diet”: our own species, humans, are suffering as well from this way of life. Animals raised for food actually take more from the global food supply than they provide. *Transition and lead-in needed.*

“As much as 80% of the global soybean crop, and 40-50% of the annual corn crop are fed to cattle, pigs, chickens, and other livestock... But feeding grain to animals is an extremely inefficient use of food. It takes roughly 6 ½ pounds of edible grain to produce just 2 pounds of meat”(“World Hunger”). “ If all of the world’s crops were directly consumed by humans, there would be approximately 70 percent more food available, providing sustenance for an additional 4 billion

*How do you know? Is this from a source?*

*Provide more of your own commentary/analysts.*

people”(Dean). Our planet cannot simply feed 7 billion people on <sup>an</sup> a animal based diet. More than 40,000 people suffer from starvation each day, and the countries that have the most starving people are exporting the most grain to rich countries to feed their cows, pigs and other animals (“Why Vegan”). This isn’t the animal’s fault for needing food, it’s ours’. We are wasting enormous amounts of edible grain to feed farm animals, so that we may satisfy our desire for meat, milk, and eggs. The solution is this: the fewer farmed animals we feed <sup>o</sup> the more people we feed.

*Strong sentence!*

We are murders, slaughters, torturers, captivators, slave drivers, masters, and killers. Cody Carlson worked at many farms and they all commit inhumane atrocities against animal<sup>s</sup>. Treating animals as if they are nothing is disgusting. We are loving one animal, but eating the next, without even knowing it we are contributing to speciesism. The ones who understand this, and care about all living things are <sup>not essential</sup> <sup>o</sup> sadly, the minority. We need to stop this injustice before we cut down all our forests, before we have too much blood on our hands, before we starve too many children, and before we separate too many families. We, as the consumer, must stand up and fight before it’s too late. “Nothing will benefit human health, and increase the chances for survival of life on earth as much as the evolution to a vegetarian diet”(Albert Einstein). We all can put a stop to factory farms. By switching to a plant based lifestyle, you are not only cleansing your body, but preserving all the living beings on earth. A normal day for you could start by saving lives.

*Great job of connecting back to your intro.*

*Call to action*

*hyperbole and not true*

[Heading is centered]

Works Cited

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- Alphabetized by authors' last name  
or by title when a work has no author)
- Double-space throughout
- A work with four authors is listed by the first author's name and the abbreviation "et al." (for "and others").
- First line of each entry is at the left margin; extra lines are indented 1/2" (one tab)