Critical Theory and Animal Liberation

A new addition to the Nature Meaning's series, Roger S. Gottlieb, editor

Edited by John Sanbonmatsu

About the Book

Critical Theory and Animal Liberation is the first collection to approach our relationship with animals from the critical or "left" tradition in political and social thought. Breaking with past treatments that have framed the problem as one of "animal rights," the authors instead depict the exploitation and killing of other animals as a political question of the first order. The contributions highlight connections between our everyday treatment of animals and other forms of social power, mass violence, and domination from capitalism and patriarchy to genocide, fascism, and ecocide.

Contributors include well-known writers in the field as well as scholars in other areas writing on animals for the first time. Among other things, the authors apply Freud's theory of repression to our relationship to the animal, debunk the new "Locavore" movement, and point the way toward a new transformative politics that would encompass the human and animal alike.

"This book breaks new ground in both critical theory and the ethics debate surrounding the mistreatment and domination of animals by humans. An indispensable collection for anyone interested in these areas of social critique, these essays sketch a comprehensive alternative to the prevailing strands of neo-Marxist and liberal philosophies." -David Ingram, Loyola University

"This is an engaging and scholarly analysis of some of the key issues in animal/human liberation, which makes it clear how connected the oppression of animals is to the oppression of other humans. All of the authors wonder how we can be sensitive to human suffering yet blind to animal suffering. The truth is, we cannot, or must not any longer. This book fulfills a long-ruit mandate demanding a deep change of view. I commend it highly." -Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, author of When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals

About the Editor

John Sanbonmatsu is associate professor of philosophy at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and author of The Postmodern Prince.

List of Contributors

Carol Adams; Aaron Bell; Ted Benton; Susan Benston; Carl Boggs; Karen Davis; Josephine Donovan; Christina Gerhardt; Victoria Johnson; Renzo Llorente; Eduardo Mendieta; John Sorenson; Dennis Soron; Vasile Stanescu; Zipporah Weisberg

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