Promoting the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl

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# **United Poultry** Concerns

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UPC Sanctuary photo of Minny Greenwell by Karen Davis, December 22, 2014

"Please, never, ever, call me a 'battery hen.' I, Minny, am a proud descendant of the Red Jungle Fowl!"

# Custom Heavy as Frost and Deep Almost as Life – What Do We Mean By Socialization?



Carissa kissing Akachan.

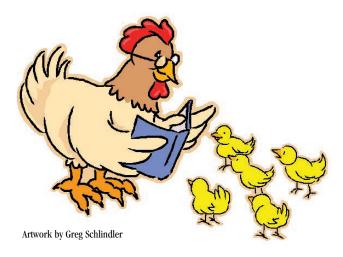
Karen Davis, PhD presented this topic on the panel "Where Did Our Compassion Go? Children, Adults and the Loss of the Human-Animal Bond," The City College of New York, December 2, 2014.

# My background with children and young people

grew up in Altoona, Pennsylvania in the 1950s where my father and three brothers and virtually the entire male community took sport hunting and fishing for granted without question. I never participated in their activities or had any desire to, though my father would sometimes invite me to join them, "just for the walk." I could say no, but my brothers could hardly refuse. Boys are as much at the mercy of "male domination" and punishment for deviance as girls are, sometimes more.

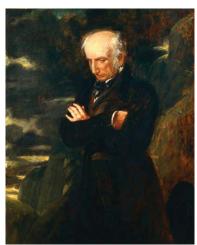
Through the years I've worked professionally with children and young people of all ages. In the 1960s, I taught at a daycare center in Baltimore, MD called – yes! – The Little Red Hen. In the 1970s, I was a juvenile probation officer in inner-city Baltimore for five years, where I counselled troubled teen-age girls. From 1980 to 1991, I taught English at the University of Maryland-College Park to students who often sought my counsel not only about literature and writing, but about themselves. Thus I have had many interactions

with a variety of children and young people over the years, and my views on the effect of socialization on the human-animal bond include these encounters.



#### Source of the title of my talk

My talk is inspired by the English Romantic poet William Wordsworth (1770-1850), whose poem Ode on Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood recounts his loss of visionary insight into Nature as he became an adult. The poem begins:



Portrait of William Wordsworth by Benjamin Robert

There was a time when meadow, grove, and stream, The earth, and every common sight,

To me did seem

Apparell'd in celestial light,

The glory and the freshness of a dream.

It is not now as it hath been of yore; -

Turn wheresoe'er I may,

By night or day,

The things which I have seen I now can see no more.

In the poem, Wordsworth argues that children enter the world with a light of perception that fades over time "into the light of common day." Seeking to understand the loss of this light, he describes how children, despite their affinity for Nature and the bliss this gift confers, are driven simultaneously to imitate and please their parents. Wordsworth views the eagerness of children to model and fit into the adult world as a tragic but inevitable motivation that, unbeknownst to the innocent ones, guides them into "the darkness of the grave." Toward the end of the poem he asks the child:

Thou little Child, yet glorious in the might Of heaven-born freedom on thy being's height, Why with such earnest pains dost thou provoke The years to bring the inevitable yoke, Thus blindly with thy blessedness at strife? Full soon thy soul shall have her earthly freight, And custom lie upon thee with a weight, Heavy as frost, and deep almost as life!

This is a rhetorical question but one that seeks an answer. Wordsworth finds solace in his belief that there are compensatory forms of adult happiness commensurate with the hard realities that Life brings, and that despite the loss of visionary joy in Nature that comes with growing up, there remains in each person a "primal sympathy" that custom cannot destroy.

#### Children are not blank slates

The seventeenth-century English Enlightenment philosopher John Locke (1632-1704) argued in opposition to Wordsworth that the mind of a child at birth is an "empty cabinet," a blank slate or *tabula rasa* devoid of innate ideas or content. Whereas Wordsworth argues that people are born with a supernal knowledge that informs the young child's perceptions and enthusiasms, which he regards as positive attributes that socialization stifles, Locke views the human infant as an empty vessel whose content develops from the elements of each person's life experiences. Locke said, "I think I may say that of all the men we meet with, nine parts often are what they are, good or evil, useful or not, by their education."

Modern genetics disproves the idea that individuals

come into the world as blank slates. Instead, we each have a unique genetic blueprint. As noted on microworld.org, "Almost every cell in your body contains DNA and all the information needed to make you what you are, from the way you look to which hand you write with." As for Wordsworth's idea that children possess an inextinguishable primal sympathy with Nature, even if so, the question remains as to how, and why, biology, psychology, aging and socialization conspire to smother this primal sympathy as part of the growth process in most people. Must socialization conflict with compassion for animals?

Let us note that compassion for animals as individuals is not synonymous with primal sympathy with Nature. Wordsworth's own passion for Nature had more to do with waterfalls and woods than with animals per se, and being a Nature enthusiast can involve treating animals badly. Worship of animal Spirits and concern for animal Species can coexist with callousness toward individual animals, even disdain for a "mere" bird or a single squirrel.

#### 4-H crushes compassion for animals

Writing in the anthology Sister Species: Women, Animals, and Social Justice, farmed animal transport and slaughterhouse investigator, Twyla Francois, describes her experience growing up in a small, religious farming community in Manitoba,



Canada. In rural Canada, she writes, almost all students are enrolled in the 4-H – Head, Heart, Hands, and Health – program, where they learn to suppress their feelings of compassion for animals. She recalls how her friend who unknowingly was raising her beloved calf to be auctioned for slaughter, wept as the calf was loaded onto the trailer to be taken away and killed. Immediately, the organizer handed her a check for \$1,000. "To my surprise," Twyla writes, "her tears were quickly replaced with thoughts of how she would spend the money."

What this episode shows is complicity between the "child" and the elements of adult callousness – not just

between Twyla's friend and the auction organizer, but within the girl herself. The elements of socialization include desires, satisfactions and compensations that compete with and often overwhelm empathy and compassion, not only for animals but for anyone. Socialization is not simply an outside force bearing down on innocent children. Like all animals who live in herds and flocks, humans have evolved to be socialized in order to live within their own group.

#### Being a child vs. being socialized

In "At First Blush," in the December 2014 issue of *Harper's Magazine*, Norwegian writer Karl Ove Knausgaard describes a childhood episode in which he was shamed by his teacher in front of the class. He goes on to consider what it means to be a child:

To be a child is to be within yourself, inside your thoughts and feelings. To be a child is to be free of the perceptions of others. To be a child is also always, in a certain sense, to be inconsiderate. Your own needs, your own hunger, your own thirst, your own joy, your own anger – these direct everything you do. To grow up is to learn to show consideration, to know who you are in the company of others, and to act in relation to them, not only to yourself. Shame is our way of regulating this relation. Shame is the presence of the gaze of others within ourselves. This is what I experienced back then, in the classroom.

Knausgaard discusses the role of shaming — bullying — in socialization. Bullying isn't so much learned behavior as it is instinctual. Children will bully a deviant without any help from adults. This "dark side of childhood," while cruel and pitiless toward the victim, acts as a social correction. Without bullying, he says, there would be no rules or sense of belonging to a community — "just individuals who would each be forced to create and maintain their own separate worlds." The cost and benefit of being part of a community is that the "deviant" (the individual or that part of the individual that differs) has to be sacrificed. "It is the price we have to pay to be more than one," he says.

#### Ethical deviance and socialization

Psyche and socialization are complicated, but let us assume that there is a compassionate "child" – a primal sympathy for animals in most of us. One of the saddest ironies in life, I believe, is that there are adults in every community who love and empathize with animals, only they don't know that there are others among them who feel the same way, because everyone keeps quiet about it. Fear of ridicule and rejection, isolation and ostracism, enables people to bully one another into silence and submission. Ethical deviance challenges the tyranny of custom and compliance.

Ethical deviance is the element in society that prevents socialization from becoming sclerotic. The ethical deviant opens the window a crack to let in fresh air, fresh ideas and perceptions. The ethical deviant may be thought of as the "child" within a society who, lucky for that society, will not grow up to be just another replica. The ethical deviant reassures people whose sensibilities have not gone totally underground or been beaten to death that they are not "crazy" for caring about a chicken. The ethical deviant refuses to be bullied into becoming a slave or a clone in order to belong. The ethical deviant provides a social service.

In a very valuable sense, then, the "child" aka ethical deviant is a grownup. In his *Ode on Intimations of Immortality*, Wordsworth contrasts his instinctual, unreflecting passion for Nature as a child with the "years that bring the philosophic mind." The ethical deviant's primal sympathy with and insight into the life of things matures to become the conscious sensibility, awareness and purposefulness of the adult. This person is the poet, the peacemaker, the social justice activist, the animal rights advocate – the "outsider" who keeps the consciousness and conscience of society alive and growing.

The struggle between conscience and callousness isn't just between the self "in here" and society "out there"; the struggle takes place among conflicting impulses within our nature in response to situations we find or put ourselves in. Running a sanctuary for chickens, I can tell you that whereas I like mice and raccoons ontologically, I am not fond of them situationally. There is an ethical struggle among competing forces, feelings and obligations even within

a sanctuary and a sanctuary provider. For some people it may be that being or becoming vegan changes them to feel more peaceful inside, but as I once wrote, this hasn't been my experience. Rather:

Veganism has made me more conscious of behavior patterns that are not consistent with my adherence to philosophic veganism. Being vegan has not made my personality more peaceful, as by some sort of physiological or mystical transformation or holistic purification; however, it has made me intellectually more aware of my feelings and behavior and less able to rationalize and do certain things that I might otherwise overlook.

An important point is that we must never take for granted that people "over 25" are unreachable, unteachable, or dispensable in our quest to make compassion for animals part of the socialization process. Not only is this assumption wrong, but children who are surrounded by adults who don't support their compassionate feelings suffer in lonely isolation and confusion and will often turn against themselves, and against animals, violently for having feelings that no one they looked up to when they were little seemed to share or understand. Our best hope for the future isn't five-year-olds. Our best hope is five-year-olds supported by adults who have nurtured their own primal sympathies to maturity. – *Karen Davis* 



Where Did Our Compassion Go? City College of New York, Dec. 2, 2014. Left to right: Chris Parucci, Bill Crain, Karen Davis, Brian Shapiro, Nancy Cardwell, Joyce Friedman, Daisy Dominguez

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# Poultry Press

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# **Pioneering New Traditions for Thanksgiving**



Thanksgiving saw UPC featured in *USA Today* & *Eastern Shore News*, huge bus ads in San Francisco & Washington DC, a fabulous Open House Nov. 29, a splendid table at the Wash. DC Vegetarian Celebration, a beautiful rescued turkey at





our White House leafleting, and participation in the 46millionturkeys exhibit in Takoma, Washington, DC. Staff members Hope Bohanec and Ronnie Steinau passed out thousands of UPC Turkeys brochures in San Diego and San Francisco!

# Freddaflower Memorial & Appreciation Fund

The pain of losing them is the price we pay for the privilege of knowing them and sharing their lives . . .

We thank those people who have contributed to our work with recent donations *In Loving Memory and in Honor and Appreciation of* the following beloved family members and friends, both those who have passed away and those who are with us.

My Dixie passed away last February and I grieve her loss every day, God rest her soul. Please accept this donation to continue your good work, in memory of Dixie, my angel. – *Roberta Beauchamp* 

Bless you all for loving and protecting these dear innocent beings. My donation is given in loving memory of our precious rescued banty hen, Martha. – *Judith Roehm* 

My donation is in memory of Ann, the "spent" hen in the Butterfield slaughterhouse video by The Humane Society of the United States, and all spent hens who die a horrific and inhumane death needlessly.

— Victoria Figurelli

In loving memory of our dear boy, Buddy. You came to us from a background we knew little about. Only that your face was scarred and you were nervous. You came to be the most joyous being. Missing your dog dances, your exuberance and love for your family. Watching you cuddle with your "sister," Nina. You were with us only a year and 3 months, when we were hoping for a lifetime. But now you are free and at peace and thankfully your suffering wasn't long. Love you forever, sweet boy. For all the animals, *Michael and Dianne Bahr* 

In honor of the good work going on for the animals. – *Joan Martin* 

In memory of animal rights advocate Norm Phelps. I first met Norm and his wife Patti Rogers in the 1980s in a van at around 4am taking us to a hunt sabotage in Maryland. We remained good friends despite

some philosophical disagreements. Norm spoke at UPC's first annual conference on Direct Action for Animals June 26-27, 1999, which introduced the concept of Open Rescues to U.S. activists. Norm's books *The Longest Struggle* and *The Dominion of Love* are permanent contributions to the Animal Rights Movement. In *The Longest Struggle*, Norm wrote "Thanks to Karen Davis, chickens and turkeys are now front-and-center on the animal rights agenda." Norm and Patti have been wonderful friends to United Poultry Concerns, and Norm will be deeply missed. – *Karen Davis* 



Norm Phelps speaks at UPC's conference in Machipongo, VA on Direct Action for Animals, June 26-27, 1999.

My donation is in loving memory of Noel, my handsome Siamese boy. You came for Christmas and made it especially happy for me. I miss your lively chatter and watching you perform your exercise routine. I love you and miss you daily. Love Mom. – Ana A. Garcia

I am pleased to sponsor Nicholas the rooster in memory of my previously sponsored rooster Benjamin, who died after living happily at United Poultry Concerns. – *Marcia Mueller* 



Benjamin, beloved UPC sanctuary rooster 2008-2014

This donation is given in memory of Joanne Klauer's husband Clay who died this year. – *Holly Pearson* 

In memory of "Big Girl." – Jill Tew

In fond memory of Elia Benson, mom of Linda Bower. – *Jessica Spain* 

In memory of Roger our dog, of Berkeley, CA. – *Rachel Hall* 

In loving memory of Simon the cat. – *Irene Goranitis*, *MD* 

In honor of Nero, Fredericka, Julie, Nathaniel, Leonard, and Bertha, remembered forever and sadly missed. – *Paul Deane* 

My gift is in honor of All God's Creatures. – *Brien Comerford* 

# Maya, a Very Special Peahen

by Joan Martin's friend Carolyn in Mississippi

fell in love at a poultry show with a peachick. She was so cute I couldn't resist bringing her home with me. People said you can't tame a peafowl, but I was determined to give it my best try. I named her Maya. She was only about the size of a bantam chicken when I brought her home, so I put her in a cage with my Serama rooster named Sierra. They bonded right away. Maya didn't want him out of her sight. As chicks do, she started to grow. And grew and grew. She got so tall Sierra had to look up at her, but they still loved each other. To my delight, she bonded with me also. I think it helped for her to be an only peachick and raised with a rooster. She watched me hold and cuddle Sierra and saw it was OK. So she let me hold her too. Even though she is grown up now, she still lets me hold her on my lap and hug her. We cuddle and put our cheeks together. She has free range of my house. At night she sleeps up high on top of a cage. A peahen is an unusual house pet but Maya is a wonderful one. So don't let anyone tell you that you can't have a peahen companion. One just might surprise you. Maya is one very special bird and I love her dearly. I'm glad I didn't listen to folks who said it couldn't be done.



Maya

# The End of Hens: Inside a "Spent Hen" Slaughterhouse

# Butterfield Spent Fowl Slaughter Plant in Minnesota

hat this new undercover video investigation released in January by The Humane Society of the United States shows is what happens to millions of egg-laying hens in the U.S. In or out of cages, this is how they die unless they get sent to a live poultry market or are gassed to death. Please don't be fooled by "organic," "cage-free" and other labels. Young hens whose profit-making days are over are trucked to "spent fowl" plants just like in this video. Or they are stuffed into metal containers, sealed dumpsters or killing carts to be hosed to death

painfully with ice-cold carbon dioxide. Hens used for egg production are killed horrifically no matter what lies egg cartons and companies like Whole Foods and other retailers tell people.

Because spent fowl plants are few and far between, hens travel hundred even thousands of miles in battery cages to their final destination. All the while their bodies are forming and pushing out eggs so that, in addition to no food or water or space in the transport cages and being trucked nearly naked of feathers in all kinds of weather, they are covered in egg slime. Throughout the world, egg-laying hens are treated just like in this video, which includes hens being paralyzed with electricity and scalded to death.



# A LEGACY OF COMPASSION FOR THE BIRDS

Please remember United Poultry Concerns through a provision in your will.

Please consider an enduring gift of behalf of the birds.

A legal bequest may be worded as follows:

I give, devise and bequeath to United Poultry Concerns, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in the state of Maryland and located in the state of Virginia, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and/or (specifically designated property and/or stock contribution).

We welcome inquiries.

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Karen & Mr. Frizzle © 2008 Davida G. Breier

# Whole Foods: The False Face of Humane Farming – Investigators Find "Certified Humane" Cruelty to Chickens



Whole Foods: The Lie.

video released in January by the animal rights group Direct Action Everywhere (DxE) reveals horrific suffering of hens and roosters at Petaluma Farms, a Northern California egg supplier for Whole Foods and Organic Valley supermarkets. Instead of what Whole Foods calls "Chickens Raised with Care," investigators found starving, debeaked hens and roosters covered in feces and crowded miserably in a dark shed thick with pollution. In the video, amid the horror, we watch as an investigator gently gathers up one little hen who lies dying in the manure. This hen, whom they name Mei Hua, meaning Beautiful Flower, lived to experience grass and fresh air for the first time in her life. But for the others, there was no way out.



Whole Foods: The Truth.

#### Let's Embrace a New Ethic

In a letter published in *The Press Democrat*, January 14, in Sonoma Country, California where Petaluma Farms is located, United Poultry Concerns Projects Manager Hope Bohanec responded to the farm owners' claim that the chickens shown in the video weren't Certified Humane:

EDITOR: I'm grateful that brave activists are shining a much-needed light on the dark and secretive world of animal agriculture in Sonoma County. This is not just a case of one bad egg. Cruelties are inherent to breeding animals for meat, dairy and eggs, no matter the label. Mothers are separated from frightened newborns, agency is denied, and the brutal slaughter of young animals who want to continue living is inevitable.

The owner's defense was that the hens in the video were not from their "certified humane" flock but from the conventional buildings they have on the property. So let me get this straight — the Mahrts [the owners] are OK with having some of the birds suffer, as long as they are not the certified humane hens? If the owners truly cared about the birds, they would have the highest standard for them all, but it's about running a business, and they can make more profit with a wider variety of products.

It's unnecessary and unhealthy to eat animal products and impossible to honestly farm animals humanely. Let's embrace a new ethic. Bring farmed animals into our circle of compassion and not eat meat, dairy or eggs. – *Hope Bohanec, Penngrove, California* 



"Certified Humane is a LIE. Please care about me. Choose compassion. Be vegan."

Direct Action Everywhere activist Brian Burns will discuss DxE's philosophy and strategies at **UPC's 4th Annual Conscious Eating Conference** in Berkeley, CA Saturday April 4 cohosted by Animal Place. Registration is now open – please join us! Turn the page for more information.

# You are cordially invited to attend

# United Poultry Concerns' Fourth Annual Conference On the topic of



# Saturday, April 4, 2015, Berkeley, California

Conference Hosts: United Poultry Concerns, Animal Place, Berkeley Organization for Animal Advocacy

**Conference Synopsis:** UPC's *Conscious Eating Conference* brings expert speakers to Berkeley, California to share their ideas about the best food choices we can make for the planet, ourselves, and other animals. We will explore the ethics of eating and the effect that each food choice has, and why it matters.

Our conference features a fearless investigator who went undercover to document the inside story of animal farming. We will reveal little known facts about the fishing industry, including factory-farm fishing and how the oceans are being affected, and we will hear startling new information about the consciousness and emotional lives of fish. We will examine controversial strategies for farmed animal advocacy — especially the arguments raging over "single-issue" campaigns and confrontational activism in restaurants and supermarkets. Along with our speakers, this year's conference highlights an interactive discussion with the audience on how to heighten our message with the most effective voices and actions. You don't want to miss this exciting day of information exchange and advocacy support!



University of California Berkele

Location: David Brower Center, 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

Date: Saturday, April 4, 2015 • Registration: 8am • Program: 9am - 5pm

**Registration:** FREE for students with IDs. To register as a student, email <a href="https://hope@upc-online.org">hope@upc-online.org</a>.

\$15 all others. To register, send check or money order to UPC, PO Box 150, Machipongo, VA 23405, or register by credit card at <a href="https://www.upc-online.org/forums/2015">www.upc-online.org/forums/2015</a>.

Food: Continental breakfast, Lunch for all participants, Dinner for speakers

#### Speakers:



# TJ Tumasse, Animal Legal Defense

Animal Legal Defense Fund, Former Undercover Investigator

**Kim Sturla**, Executive Director, Animal Place

> **Mary Finelli**, Fish Feel

**Victoria Moran**, Main Street Vegan

**Karen Davis**, United Poultry Concerns

**Brian Burns**, Direct Action Everywhere

**Katie Cantrel**, Factory Farming Awareness Coalition















# Why Did the Chicken Cross the World? The Epic Saga of the Bird that Powers Civilization

By Andrew Lawler, Atria Books, 2014

Review by Karen Davis, PhD

The Chicken Anthropomorphized as "World Conqueror"

"Why did the chicken cross the road? To get to the other side of life." – Mark Mathew Braunstein www.MarkBraunstein.org

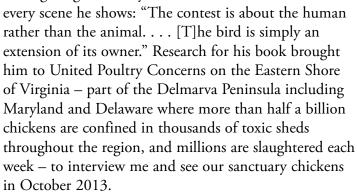
he June 2012 issue of *Smithsonian* magazine published an article celebrating global chicken production and consumption. "How the Chicken Conquered the World" features a cartoon of the "Chicken Conqueror" dressed as Napoleon. Eager to glitz the story of chickens as "crispy" corpses and world conquerors, the editors thought it would be cute to dress up the account with "astounding" images. Readers were invited to chuckle with the editors: "What if you were to take portraits of raw chickens, dressed up as some of the most famous leaders in history . . . Chickens-Dressed-Like-Napoleon-Einstein-and-Other-Historical-Figures?"

Other than the Napoleon cartoon, the chickens dressed as "historical figures" for the article are naked, headless corpses. The article's coauthor is science writer Andrew Lawler, whose book *Why Did the Chicken Cross the World?* looks at why the chicken, of all animal species on earth, emerged, in his view, as "our most important animal companion."

According to the book jacket, Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road? presents "the sweeping history that this humble fowl deserves." Lawler entertains the reader with vivid accounts of how chickens have been exploited through the ages for medicine, sacrifice, sport, science, food and war, right up to where, through his eyes, you can watch a contemporary cockfighting spectacle in Manila, witness a Kaporos chicken-swinging ritual in Brooklyn, peek inside a chicken research laboratory at Michigan State University, and catch a glimpse of an industrial "broiler" chicken shed where these very world conquerors — our "partners" in the project of

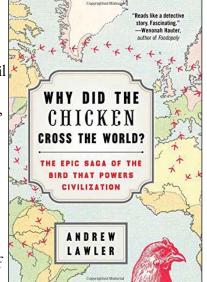
powering the human race with their proteins — sit in dead silence until the chicken catchers, pumped up for violence, come cursing, kicking, clacking and hollering at them, a squad of terrorists descending on birds who are sick and lame and never harmed anyone.

Lawler's summary of cockfighting fits nearly



He says he was initially leery because I responded to his request for a visit by saying that his *Smithsonian* article was despicable and that he needed "a whole different perspective, spirit, and attitude toward chickens"; thus his surprise when instead of a lecture he was invited outdoors to meet our chickens, of whom he writes that "After the numbing uniformity inside the Delaware broiler shed, the individuality of each of Davis's birds is startling and unnerving."

Lawler says we agree that the effort of United Poultry Concerns on behalf of chickens is "impractical, ineffectual, and wildly anthropomorphic." This may be his interpretation of my saying, on pages 227-228: "I think chickens are in hell and they are not going to get out. They are already in hell and there are just going to be more of them. As long as people want billions of eggs and millions of pounds of flesh, how can all these animal products be delivered to the millions? There will be crowding and cruelty – it is just built into the situation. You can't get away from it. And we are



ingesting their misery."

Yes, so I said, but pessimism about an atrocity and its outcome is not the same as feeling, or being, "ineffectual" in one's commitment to alleviating the atrocity, nor is it an assessment or equivalent of one's (or one's organization's) ability or accomplishment confronting the atrocity. The fact that a situation may be beyond one's control does not make one's actions toward it, per se, "ineffectual." Lawler's book, and maybe his conscience, benefitted from my book Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry, and from other writings of mine that he read. He told me during his visit that until he encountered the idea in Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs that by eating chickens we are eating their misery, it never occurred to him. And probably most readers never thought of it either, but perhaps now they will.

I believe his book benefitted also from our personal interview and as a result of his seeing our sanctuary chickens living and being treated in ways that differ starkly from how chickens look, act, and are treated in the various situations our species forces them into – situations that, as Lawler describes cockfighting, are about "the human," not chickens. The chickens, poor souls, are simply extensions of their owners, whether it's cockfighting, religious sacrifice, genetic manipulation, or whatever. Those of us who want chickens to live sanely as chickens, instead of as what Lawler calls a sanctuary's "fowl flotsam" and "misfit poultry" – we are not the anthropomorphic ones. The abusers are.

Anthropomorphism originally referred to the attribution of human characteristics to a deity. It now refers almost entirely to the attribution of consciousness, emotions, and other mental states, once commonly regarded as exclusively or predominantly human, to nonhuman animals. Anthropomorphism based on empathy and careful observation is a valid approach to understanding other species. After all, we can only see the world "through their eyes" by looking through our own. The imposition of humanized traits and behaviors on other animals for purely selfish purposes, forcing them to behave in ways that are pathologic to the animals themselves, is not the same thing as drawing inferences about the emotions, interests, and desires of animals rooted in our common evolutionary heritage.

The "humble chicken" as Napoleonic conqueror . . . To a thoughtless person, dressing up a defenseless

and defeated creature as a "conqueror," representing chickens as our companions in our destructive ventures toward them, may seem clever and cute; otherwise, it is callous and cruel – and far from new. Anthropomorphic derision of other animals in a spirit of malevolent jollity is an age-old ritual in the carnivalesque tradition of taunting and tormenting helpless victims, both literally and figuratively. Opposing the sanctimony of pious sentiments and ceremonies, the carnivalesque spirit emphasizes mockery, sarcasm, cruelty, gluttony, and pleasure in the abuse of bodies. In the carnivalesque tradition, humans and other animals are mixed derisively together. Only the eyes, wrote cultural analyst Mikhail Bakhtin, "have no part in these comic images," because eyes "express an individual, so to speak."

Apart from the Napoleon cartoon, all of the chickens depicted as conquerors in Lawler's *Smithsonian* article, of which *Why Did the Chicken Cross the World?* is the fruition, are headless. Looking at them, I thought of former Tyson chicken slaughterhouse worker Virgil Butler, writing before he died, in 2006, of how the chickens who were about to be killed would stare at him with their eyes as they hung upside down on the conveyer belts, fully conscious and filled with excruciating electric shocks administered to their faces through cold, salted, electrified water: "They try to hide their head from you by sticking it under the wing of the chicken next to them on the slaughter line. . . . You can tell by them looking at you, they're scared to death."

Virgil Butler became a vegetarian when he could no longer look at a piece of a dead chicken or any other meat anymore without seeing "the sad, tortured face that was attached to it sometime in the past."

Lawler is not a vegetarian or vegan-friendly. Despite the wealth of delicious animal-free foods that can be found even in the rural area where I live, he dismisses them, whether in ignorance or by design, as mostly unworthy items that merely "mimic the bland taste of industrial chicken." Instead, he feeds the fantasy that "More humane genetics, treatment, and living conditions could roll back the worst abuses against our companion species without unduly interfering with the flow of cheap animal protein to our cities."

Cognitive science shows that chickens are birds with "a deep intelligence," who "see the world in far greater depth and detail than we do," have "a sophisticated method of communication," and "a complex nervous

system designed to form a multitude of memories and make complex decisions." However, a researcher at Michigan State University who does the usual hideous things to hens that people like her have been doing for decades says that chickens "are not kind and gentle. They peck at each other and pull feathers out" and don't always use the "freedom" of their crowded confinement systems "wisely."

This slap at chickens is an example of false anthropomorphism. Chickens do not pick and pull at each other, or get into "cockfights," in their tropical forest homes. They are foragers with a strong family life whose picking at one another in captive squalor and sterility is a form of distorted behavior engendered by living conditions that frustrate their nature and reflect the psychopathy of their captors. Thirty years of keeping chickens, and I know. Sure they have spats now and then—so what? They're sentient, social beings, not robots. When Andrew Lawler visited our place, I took him upstairs to look down at the chickens in the yard, surrounded by trees and moving about in the loveliest rhythms and patterns of their daily activities.

Lawler calls the modern, "engineered" pure white debilitated chicken, "a poster child for all that is sad and nightmarish about our industrial agriculture." His account of how chickens got this way is one of No Exit. He travels to tropical forests and mountain tops in Asia, where the families of red jungle fowl – ancestors

and contemporary relatives of domesticated chickens - live shy of humans, but they cannot escape. They and their forest habitat are disappearing, and the locals catch them and use them as live bait to lure others into captivity. A village farmhand explains that the "smart and secretive [jungle fowl] can swiftly die if caged by rushing the bars and



Beautiful Red Jungle Fowl Hen and Rooster

breaking its neck." No matter. A campaign is underway to appropriate the genetic traits of remnant populations of jungle fowl in their shrinking forests. Laboratories, zoos. This is their future. Why Did the Chicken Cross the World? concludes with a North Carolina ecologist – a retired employee in a nuclear weapons laboratory – thanking "our most steadfast and versatile companion," in Lawler's words, for giving itself to us. He is interested in saving the "pure stuff." – Karen Davis, PhD

# PLEASE, Join Us Today! We NEED Your Strong and Continuing Financial Support New Membership \$35 2015 Membership Renewal \$30 Membership includes our quarterly Poultry Press Magazine to keep you informed on current issues, and how you can get involved in many other ways. If you would like to support us by credit card, please go to our website at www.upc-online.org and click on DONATE to make your donation. It's that easy! Additional Tax-deductible Contribution: \$20 \$35 \$50 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$0ther \$ Name Address City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ United Poultry Concerns Please make your check payable to United Poultry Concerns. THANK YOU! Are you moving? Please send us your new address. Do you want to be removed from our mailing list? Please tell us now. The U.S. Postal Service charges UPC for every returned mailing, Remailing the magazine costs UPC an additional sum. Due to the enormous

cost of remailing, we can no longer provide this service. Thank you for your consideration. Please keep up your membership. We need your continuing financial support.

# **International Respect for Chickens Day May 4**

"Please do an ACTION for Chickens in May!"

INTERNATIONAL RESPECT FOR CHICKENS DAY, MAY 4 is an annual project launched by United Poultry Concerns in 2005 to celebrate chickens throughout the world and protest the bleakness of their lives in farming operations. The entire month of May is International Respect

for Chickens Month!

Please do an ACTION for chickens on or around May 4. Ideas include leafleting on a busy street corner, holding an office party or classroom celebration, writing a letter to the editor, doing a radio call-in, tabling at your local church, school or shopping mall, hosting a vegan open house, or simply talking to family, friends or strangers about the plight – and delight – of chickens and how people can help them.



See our merchandise pages for posters & brochures, also available at <a href="https://www.upc-online.org/merchandise">www.upc-online.org/merchandise</a>.

Thank you for making every day Respect for Chickens Day!

# Free Ways to Help United Poultry Concerns Raise Much-Needed Funds

Please make free fundraising a part of your online routine

Every time you shop at any of 1400+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits United Poultry Concerns. It's a free service, and you'll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive's repository of coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account. And when you search the web, do it through iSearchiGive.com where each search means a penny (or more!) for our cause!

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# Vegan Recipe Corner

# **Vegan Vanilla Pound Cake**

Said the Soybean to the Egg: "Anything you can do, I can do better!"



- ½ cup vanilla soy yogurt
- ½ cup blended silken tofu (whip then measure)
- 3/4 cup vanilla or plain soy milk
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- ½ cup canola or vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon lemon extract or grated lemon zest
- ½ teaspoon orange extract or grated orange zest
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ Tablespoons arrowroot powder
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees for at least 15 minutes. This cake's thick batter requires a well-preheated oven to rise properly. Lightly grease and flour a 9 x 5-inch loaf pan. (A metal pan with a dark finish is best for this cake. Do not use a larger pan.)

In a medium bowl, combine the soy yogurt, blended silken tofu, soy milk, sugar, oil, and extracts. With an electric mixer beat until everything is smooth, about 2 minutes.

In a large bowl, sift in the flour, arrowroot powder, baking powder, baking soda, and salt and mix well. Add wet ingredients, stir with a rubber spatula to combine, then beat with electric mixer for about two minutes, until a very thick batter forms. Don't overmix.

Pour batter into the prepared loaf pan. Use the rubber spatula to scrape all of the batter out of the bowl and smooth the top of the loaf. Bake for 60 to 65 minutes, and don't open the oven to peek for at least the first 45 minutes of baking. Cake is done when a toothpick or thin sharp knife inserted into the center comes out clean (although a little moisture is okay).

Remove from oven and let cool in the pan 10 minutes, then carefully transfer loaf to a wire rack to cool completely before slicing. Store cake in an airtight container.

**Variation**: For lemon pound cake, use lemon soy yogurt and increase the lemon extract to 1 teaspoon and decrease the vanilla extract to one teaspoon.

(Adapted by Janelle Davidson from Veganomicon by Isa Chandra Moskowitz and Terry Romero)



# **POSTCARDS**

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"Love is Best"



"Peaceable Kingdom"

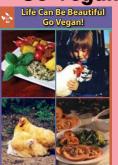


"Chickens To Know Them
is to Love Them"

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"Philosophic Vegetarianism: Acting Affirmatively for Peace"

"The Rhetoric of Apology in Animal Rights"

"Providing a Good Home for Chickens"

"Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens"

"Celebrate Easter Without Eggs"

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"Guide to Staffing Tables: Do's & Don'ts"

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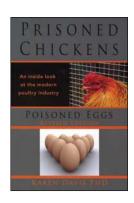


# **BOOKS**

#### Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry

By Karen Davis

This newly revised edition of *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs* looks at avian influenza, food poisoning, chicken suffering, genetic engineering, and the growth of chicken rights activism since the 1990s. Presents a compelling argument for a compassionate plant-based cuisine. "Riveting . . . Brilliant." – *Choice magazine, American* 

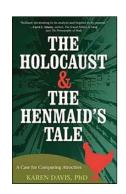


Library Association \$14.95. 40% off bulk orders of 5 (\$8.97 each) = \$44.85 for 5.

# The Holocaust and the Henmaid's Tale: A Case for Comparing Atrocities

By Karen Davis

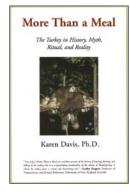
In this thoughtful and thoughtprovoking contribution to the study of animals and the Holocaust, Karen Davis makes the case that significant parallels can — and must — be drawn between the Holocaust and the institutionalized abuse of billions of animals on factory farms. "Compelling and convincing . . . this bold, brave book." - Charles Patterson, author of Eternal Treblinka \$14.95



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By Karen Davis

Karen Davis shows how turkeys in the wild have complex lives and family units, and how they were an integral part of Native American and continental cultures and landscape before the Europeans arrived, while drawing larger conclusions about our paradoxical relationship with turkeys, all birds and other animals



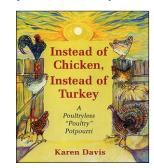
including other human beings. "The turkey's historical disfigurement is starkly depicted by Karen Davis in 'More Than a Meal.' " - The New Yorker \$14.95

# Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultryless "Poultry" Potpourri

By Karen Davis

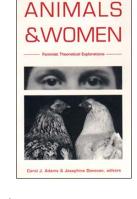
This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry

Concerns features homestyle, ethnic, and exotic recipes that duplicate and convert a variety of poultry and egg dishes. Includes artwork, poems, and illuminating passages showing chickens and turkeys in an appreciative light. \$14.95



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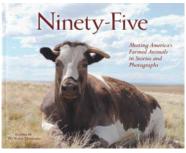
Adams & Josephine Donovan
"Karen Davis's brilliant essay
[Thinking Like a Chicken: Farm
Animals and The Feminine
Connection] brings together the
book's central concepts, leading
to conclusions that rightly should
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advocates alike." - Review by Deborah Tanzer, Ph.D. in *The Animals' Agenda*. \$16.95

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Geyer, Diane Leigh and Windi Wojdak. \$20

# Sister Species: Women, Animals, and Social

**Justice** Edited by Lisa Kemmerer, Forward by Carol J. Adams
Sister Species presents the experiences of fourteen women activists who are working on behalf of nonhuman animals and a more just and compassionate world. \$14.95



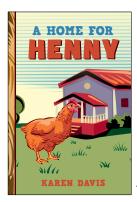
# **CHILDREN'S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**

#### Hatching Good Lessons: Alternatives To School Hatching Projects

By United Poultry Concerns
A guide booklet for elementary school teachers and other educators including parents. Revised & Updated, 2013. 16 pages of information, storytelling, classroom activities & color photos. Grades K-6 (some activities are designed



for K-12). \$2.50 per booklet. 5 for \$5. It can be viewed and printed out at <a href="https://www.upc-online.org/hatching/">www.upc-online.org/hatching/</a>.



#### A Home for Henny

By Karen Davis

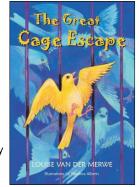
Melanie is a 3rd grader who is excited about a chick hatching project in her class at school. The project seemed like a good idea at first, but unexpected problems arise and the whole class learns a lesson in compassion. When the project is over, Melanie adopts one of the chicks she names Henny. A Home for Henny explores the challenges and concerns with school hatching projects

while evoking the lively personality of Henny and her loving

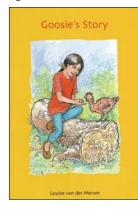
relationship with Melanie. \$6.99

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The birds in a pet shop think they are
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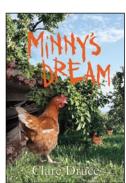
By Carlos Patino
Dave is a quirky monster
from another planet who
loves chickens and all animals on Earth. He encourages people to share
his love and not eat any

animals! Filled with fun and bold colors, this book is perfect for young children to learn compassion for chickens and all animals in a sweetly told, lovable story. \$10

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Life includes a puzzle for elementary
school students to unscramble

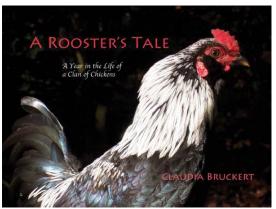
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# **Chickens at Play**

By United Poultry Concerns

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Songs for Animals, People & the Earth
DANIEL REDWOOD

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# Cruel: Bearing Witness To Animal Exploitation

By Sue Coe, OR Books, 2012
Renowned visual artist Sue Coe, pioneer champion of animal rights and author of Dead Meat, has produced this mesmerizing new book documenting the experiences of animals raised and slaughtered for human consumption. Through its written account and haunting



visual images, *Cruel* is a surpassingly passionate testimony to the waste, sorrow and violence perpetrated by our species against others. \$20

# Sanctuary: Portraits of Rescued Farm Animals By Sharon Lee Hart.

Charta Books, 2012
Sharon Lee Hart's photography project SANCTUARY takes



you on an intimate journey to meet wonderful animals and the courageous rescuers who become their companions. Sanctuary caregivers evoke individual animals in short, handwritten stories accompanying Hart's starkly beautiful black & white photography. \$20

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Celebrate 12.5" x 17" Wings 12" x 16"



# A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You

Photo by PeTA

Full-color poster vividly captures the truth about factory chickens for the public. Vegetarian message. 18"x22".



to live in fifth. They go to slaughter with yellow pus, harmful bacteria, heart and lung disease, tumors, crippled legs, sick immune systems, and more. Millions of dollars are spent hiding these facts

# Friends, Not Food

Photo by Franklin Wade Liqin Cao & FreddaFlower. Full color 19"x27" poster.



#### WHAT WINGS ARE FOR





#### CHICKS NEED THEIR MOTHERS

Photos by Jim Robertson & Karen Davis Great educational tool. Full color 11-1/2"x16" poster.

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Photo by Dave Clegg. Full color, 18"x22" poster.



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Roosting in Branches After Rotting in

Cages
Photo by Susan
Rayfield
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11.5"x16".



# Turkeys Are Too Neat To Eat United Poultry Concerns. Inc. Victoria Concerns.

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Photos by Barbara Davidson & Susan Rayfield The posters are in color, and come in two sizes: 11.5" x 16", and 18" x 27".

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