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Poultry Press

Promoting the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl

Celebrating 28 years of dedicated activism for domestic fowl



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Belle Cifu and Miss Chesapeake

UPC Photo by Karen Davis

#MeToo for Animal Victims of Sexual Assault

By Karen Davis / AlterNet, March 2, 2018

For years, women in the animal rights movement have complained of a predatory permissiveness at conferences and in offices, in conflict with the movement's purported commitment to justice for all creatures including humans. But just as in the radical social justice era of the 1960s and '70s, when women on the left were patronized by men who dismissed them and their issues as nonissues compared with the "real" politics of oppression, so in the animal rights movement, female activist complaints of male misconduct have not struck a major chord. This is because the animal rights movement, like society at large, is headed mainly by men, and because the plight of women experiencing harassment or worse by male affiliates has generally been viewed as trivial compared with the plight of nonhuman animals.

The politics of sexual misconduct may finally be shifting. Women's voices are finally being heard, their stories are being told and a system of sexual exploitation is being exposed. All of these blazons are comprised in the #MeToo movement that erupted in 2017, with "its mass base and its revelation of the pervasive and perverse alignment of misogyny and power," making it "dangerous to the established power structure," writes Martha Sonnenberg in *Tikkun*.

Igniting social media, actress Alyssa Milano wrote in 2017 that if "all the women who have been sexually harassed or assaulted wrote 'Me Too' as a status [a reference to Tarana Burke's nonprofit, Me Too, founded in 2006], we might give people a sense of the magnitude of the problem."

In fact, there's a whole other magnitude of the problem of sexual assault, only the victims belong to other species. Farmed animals, in particular, are trapped in conditions of rape and ridicule without recourse. One can feel the bristling of some readers, indignant that a cow or a turkey would be taken seriously as a victim of human sexual assault, but there it is.

In all cases of victimization, a problem is how to win attention to sufferers and suffering that most people do not want to hear about. One way that oppressed people, such as slaughterhouse workers, have sought to impress others with their plight is to say of themselves,



This photo of a female turkey being forcibly inseminated is used by permission of Jim Mason courtesy of All-Creatures.org.

"We are treated like animals." But turn around and say, for example, that sexually assaulted chickens are treated like sexually assaulted women, and resentment flares.

It isn't just "human" versus "animal." As Susan Sontag observes in *Regarding the Pain of Others*, anything that appears to demote one's own unjust suffering to "a mere instance" of generic suffering tends to be resented: "It is intolerable to have one's own sufferings twinned with anyone else's," she writes. An oppressed group might further feel that their suffering is more important than that of any other oppressed group—especially one they reflexively regard as inferior.

That said, to the evils of sexism, racism and other injustices, speciesism must be added. To misogyny, *misothery* must be compared. Jim Mason explains *misothery* in his book *An Unnatural Order: Uncovering the Roots of Our Domination of Nature and Each Other*.

I have coined the word misothery to name a body of ideas. ... It comes from two Greek words, one meaning "hatred" or "contempt," the other meaning "animal." Literally, then, misothery is hatred and contempt for animals. ... I deliberately constructed the word misothery for its similarity to the word misogyny, a reasonably common word for an attitude of hatred and contempt toward women. The similarity of the



two words reflects the similarity of the two bodies of attitudes and ideas. In both cases, the ideas reduce the power, status, and dignity of others.

The rape of farmed animals has been practiced by men and boys of all cultures that raise animals for food. The direct proximity and availability of animals on farms, added to the fact that farmed animal abuse is institutionalized by the food industry, makes it easy, writes Dutch biologist Midas Dekkers in *Dearest Pet: On Bestiality*, for sexual urges and sadism “to find satisfaction.”

But it isn't just personal deviance. Animal agriculture is rooted in manipulating the sex organs, mating choices and reproductive processes of helpless animals. Agribusiness consultant Temple Grandin follows her salacious description of the “art” of masturbating boars and sows in *Animals in Translation* with a disclaimer that “this is a business we're talking about.” Her account portrays the interface between business and prurient pleasure on the part of the “breeder” and the storyteller.

In a business culture of interspecies sexual assault, the animal's body is a plaything for profit. Involuntary physical arousal on the part of a chicken, cow or pig being penetrated or electro-ejaculated is equated with “consent.” The violated animal is nothing to the perpetrator, except in being characterized, if anyone should ask, as “enjoying” this enforced intimacy with a human being. A reproductive physiologist named Annie Donoghue blandly told *The Washington Post*, speaking of her laboratory turkeys, that “it's almost like they line up sometimes” to be electro-ejaculated. (And if an animal refuses to “line up,” then what?)

In “The Feminist Traffic in Animals” in *Neither Man Nor Beast*, Carol J. Adams challenges: “As much as men's accounts of women's lives have been partial, false, or malicious lies, so too have humans' accounts of the other animals' lives.” Toward other animals, the majority of women exhibit a patriarchal disdain for the idea of a shared sisterhood with a chicken or a cow, and many feminists have felt affronted that food served at a feminist conference should be animal-free instead of merely including a vegan “option.” They want the animals to be quiet and just be meat. In such instances, the oppressed are the oppressors, ironically acting out their own analysis by silencing the voices of their victims in terms that align them with the patriarchy they claim

to reject.

One might think that the environmental movement, like the women's movement, would include other animals in its purview, but so far the consciousness of both movements tends to exclude animals except in the generalized terms. Martha Sonnenberg exemplifies the absence of animals in her description of “what a non-misogynistic and non-patriarchal culture might look like,” including:

A changed approach to the environment and ecology, as the male “domination of nature” approach has led only to continuing abuse of the environment. We might look forward to a more nurturing and caregiving approach to nature and a healing of the harms inflicted on our planet.

This is all fine, but I don't see any animals in this picture or any animal-free tables being set. Am I unfair in fearing that behind these soft sentiments a defense of culinary violence and fur coats could lurk as aspects of women's “liberation”? I hope not. Veganism is not a mere food choice. It is ethical activism on behalf of the most profoundly victimized beings on the planet. As activists working for justice and peace, we must put teeth in our talk and project the animals' voices: “Me too!”

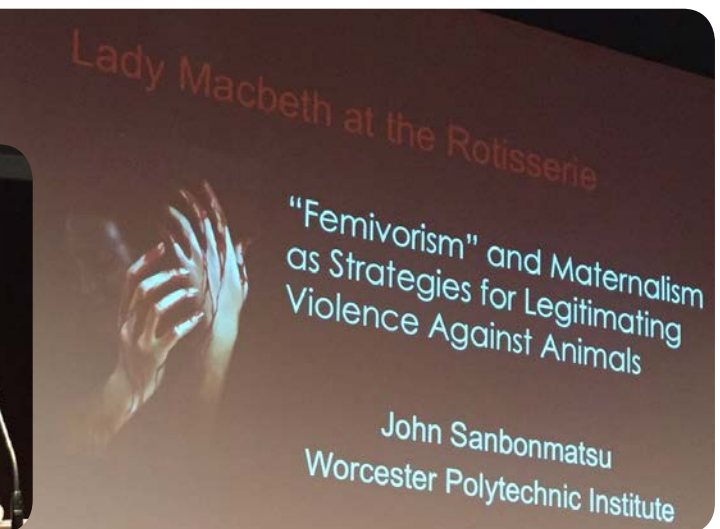


Photo of Karen Davis and Miss Chesapeake by Belle Cifu

2018 Conscious Eating Conference



UPC's 7th Annual Conscious Eating Conference Saturday, March 10th in Berkeley, California was a huge success! We had an incredibly high caliber of speakers this year who gave insightful and in-depth presentations on important animal rights issues. Enjoy the photos and be sure to join us next year! All presentations were videotaped and are being edited as we go to press. If you sign up for our e-alerts, we will send out the video for you to watch. We thank everyone who attended our conference this year, and we thank our speakers for providing so much nourishing food for thought and action!



Outraged Residents Pressure New York City Department of Health to Stop Ignoring Chicken Kaporos

Through a series of vociferous public demonstrations, New York City activists are demanding that City Health Commissioner Mary Bassett take action to prevent another bloody massacre from happening in NYC streets this year. Over half a dozen of the laws that are violated by using chickens for Kaporos are health codes, making Dr. Bassett the logical target to force change. Activists will continue making their voices heard after years of inaction from the NYC Department of Health.

Dr. Bassett has sat down with the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos and reviewed extensive documentation, including an ABC News segment featuring a quote from City Hall promising enforcement of Health laws leading up to 2017 Kaporos, as well as a 14-page Toxicology report. Among other damning

conclusions and assessments, the report states: "Kaporos activities produce unsanitary conditions . . . constitute a dangerous condition and pose a significant public health hazard."

The findings of this report have not been disputed, yet Commissioner Bassett's response to the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos activists is, "Although I appreciate your forceful advocacy on this issue, at this time, there is no evidence that the use of chickens for Kaporos poses a significant risk to human health."



A project of United Poultry Concerns dedicated to eliminating the use of chickens in the Kaporos ritual.

What Can I Do?

Contact Commissioner Bassett demanding that current laws be enforced. It is not her job to ignore those who violate public health codes with impunity. Her job is to ensure that health codes are enforced and that NYC residents are protected, and there IS evidence that chicken Kaporos poses a significant public health risk. Ask what the NYC Department of Health will do to prevent this Kaporos atrocity from happening again.

Contact Department of Health Commissioner Dr. Mary Bassett:

Home: 96 Park Terrace West,
New York, NY 10034
Work: 42-09 28th Street,
Long Island City, NY 11101
Work: (347) 396-4100
Cell: (917) 282-1567
Email: mbassett@health.nyc.gov;
marytravisbassett@gmail.com



Animal Rights 2018 - We'll Be There!

**June 28-July 1: Animal Rights 2018 National Conference
Los Angeles, CA.**

UPC President Karen Davis and Projects Manager Hope Bohanec are speakers at this year's conference. UPC is a conference sponsor and an exhibitor.

We look forward to seeing you there!



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Are All Your Ducks in a Row? Did You Know...?

Every year, domestic ducks and domestic geese are found abandoned in ponds and lakes.

All domestic animals are dependent on humans-- for food, water, shelter, veterinary care and love.

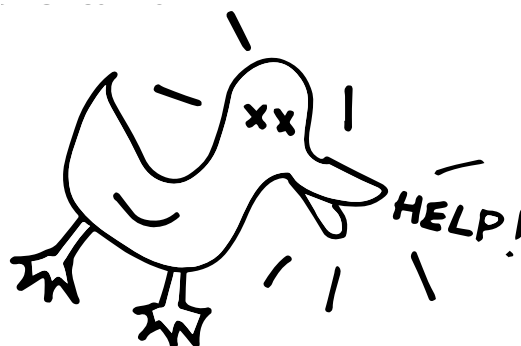
Most of these domestic ducks and domestic geese are discarded "pets" from Easter or school hatching projects.

Most are flightless. They do not "join up" with wild birds nor can they fly away.

They stay where they were abandoned and are killed by wild predators, starve to death, strangle in fishing line, are killed by dogs or get hit by cars.

People may toss them bread but bread is not adequate nourishment--these birds will starve to death on a diet of only bread. Bread also creates external and internal deformities in ducks and geese.

During our brutal winters, the pond water freezes and these domestic ducks and domestic geese will die of thirst and hypothermia. They get stuck, frozen in the ice. Without proper shelter, they freeze to death.



Dumping domestic ducks and domestic geese is cruel and illegal— Punishable by State Cruelty Statutes for Abandoning a Domestic Animal. People can be fined up to \$1000 for dumping domestic ducks & geese.

Please, get an Easter "pet" in the form of candy or a toy, not a live animal. Ask your child's school NOT to hatch out birds and release them in parks and ponds. Because now you know, they do NOT survive.

Thank you to New Jersey animal rights activist, Suzanne Dragan, for making "Are All Your Ducks In a Row?" an important part of our Humane Education program, where you can print out this document for distribution at <http://www.upc-online.org/hatching>.

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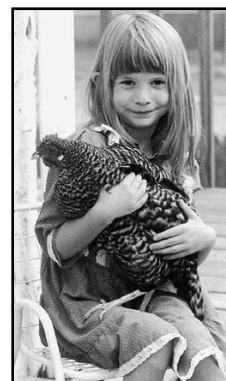
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“Clean Meat”? – Two Animal Rights Advocates Say “NO”

Why “growing meat without animals” is NOT a solution: two views

“The public mind already does not identify animals empathically with food. Most people who claim to love animals switch gears where eating is concerned. If ‘clean meat’ can significantly eliminate animals from being born into the misery and murder of meat, this, in my view, is 100% better than the present disconnection in most people’s minds between living creatures and cuisine, the result of which is a daily global animal holocaust. Surely, non-sentient cellular flesh is better than this.” – Karen Davis

In January, Karen Davis’s internet comment, expressing provisional support for meat grown in a laboratory without animals, drew fire from several animal rights advocates including Joan Harrison, whose letter, “When Even ‘Clean Meat’ Isn’t Clean Enough,” appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, January 13, 2018. Joan wrote:

Regarding Matthew Scully’s review of Paul Shapiro’s [new book] *Clean Meat*: I’m afraid I cannot agree with my fellow activists’ enthusiasm about so-called clean meat. The new technology may relieve animal suffering to some extent in the short term by using donor herds, who would suffer and be enslaved to provide cells out of which meat is then laboratory grown. Though this may end factory farming, which would be a blessing, it will do nothing to end the public’s identification of animals with food. Indeed, it will likely confirm this.

The object is not to end factory farming; the object is to end animal farming as such. The promoting of meat of this sort is thus a pernicious undermining of animal liberation. According to psychology professor and animal activist Bill Crain, experiments show that people eating the flesh of animals generally perceive animals in a negative light in contrast to people who don’t. Is this something we really wish to encourage? . . .

And what about developing meat from human cells? If the latter is repulsive to you, and clean meat from cows, pigs, chickens and lambs nevertheless seems okay, you are still under the sway of speciesism, the evils of which are well known. A simpler solution is available,

though it’ll take some time, one that is consistent with and would facilitate the liberating of animals both nonhuman and human: adopting a plant-based diet. It’s already happening.

Joan Harrison
New York

On January 25, UPC President Karen Davis asked Philosophy Professor, John Sanbonmatsu— a speaker at our March 10, 2018 Conscious Eating Conference in Berkeley, CA – what he thought of “clean meat.” He wrote back:

“Clean Meat” I think is folly, for several reasons:

- I think too many vegans are thinking of this as the Holy Grail, which may subtly be taking pressure and urgency off of other modes of action and analysis.
- The framing of the discourse as “clean” vs. “unclean” meat aestheticizes meat, which is already an aestheticized commodity. The reality is, one form of “meat” is based on genocidal violence, exploitation, and injustice, and the other isn’t. So it should be framed as a choice between violence and nonviolence, not “cleanliness” in either a “morally virtuous” or aesthetic sense (as in, I have a “clean conscience”). One of the cafes here in Cambridge, Massachusetts is called “Clear Conscience Cafe,” and naturally they serve grassfed Angus beef, etc.
- I think it’s a terrible mistake to confuse the issue in consumers’ already confused minds between “good” and “bad” forms of animal products. I was in New York City recently, and one of the grocery stores had organic turkey and pig sausages mixed in with the vegan “meat” products. So the messaging is, “This is where you get the ‘alternative’ and ‘healthy’ stuff, take your pick.”
- Most higher-end consumers will continue to choose “organic” and “local” animal flesh over synthetic, lab-grown meats. Why? Because it is marketed as “authentic.” Michael Pollan sneers when the topic of “synthetic” meat comes up: like, who would want

THAT? Just think about how educated Americans have been steering away from “processed” and “artificial” foods for a generation. And now we want them to eat burgers made with lab-grown cow cells? The meat industry will turn right around and promote “authentic” meat even more heavily than they do now.

- The whole synthetic meat movement is perpetuating the lie that the only reason, or main reason, we can't have universal veganism and an end to animal agriculture is because there are no “good” alternatives. That, and the lie that the reason people “can't” (or won't) give up eating animals is because animals just taste TOO GOOD. Well, I don't believe that. Yes, there are undoubtedly some people so hooked on the exact specific taste of bacon or whatever that they will cling to it until Doomsday. But I don't think that accounts for most or even a big part of resistance to Animal Rights or to veganism specifically.

- What's going to happen with this stuff is precisely what happened to Whole Foods and the whole “humane meat” industry: synthetic meats will not be competing with cheaper meat; this industry will be competing with

the market for specialized foods. So the price point is going to be set high, because that's where the market is going to be most lucrative. Meanwhile, as I said, if the typical consumer is faced with a menu of “real” chicken and “synthetic real” chicken, he/she is going to choose the “real” chicken most of the time, or so I believe.

- If humans think so little of the dignity or suffering of animals that they can't or won't countenance giving up farmed animal flesh until and unless there is an exact, one-to-one replacement, in taste, texture, availability, etc., then what are the odds that they will make any concerted effort to switch to synthetic meats at all?

Against the odds, somehow, we need to smash speciesism as an idea and a set of institutions and beliefs and interpellated identities. If we don't challenge that, if we can't undermine it, I think it's going to continue to be Game Over for animals, and all the synthetic meats in the world won't amount to anything.

John Sanbonmatsu, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Philosophy
Department of Humanities and Arts

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA 01609

Could “clean meat” eliminate this?



Millsboro, Delaware chicken slaughterhouse photo by Carol McCormick

Should We Genetically “Disenhance” Animals on Factory Farms to Improve Their “Welfare”?



UPC rescued battery-caged hens. Photo by Susan Rayfield

“Why We Should Genetically ‘Disenhance’ Animals Used in Factory Farms”

By Jonathan Latimer

“Disenhancement is a genetic modification that removes an animal’s capacity to feel pain. Scientists hope to be able to do this without inflicting any pain at all. So, disenhancement promises to reduce suffering in factory-farmed animals by removing their capacity to feel pain caused by their terrible environment. I will defend the process of genetic ‘disenhancement’ of animals used for factory farming. I suggest that disenhancement will significantly increase the quality of life for animals in factory farms, and that this benefit is robust against objections that disenhancement is harmful to animals and that it fails to address the immorality of factory farming.”

— University of Oxford student Jonathan Latimer. “Oxford Uehiro Prize in Practical Ethics: Why We Should Genetically ‘Disenhance’ Animals Used in Factory Farms,” March 5, 2018.

“Why We Should NOT Genetically ‘Disenhance’ Animals Used in Factory Farms”

By Karen Davis, PhD

I reject the claim that genetically destroying an animal’s ability to experience “pain,” in order to fit

the animal into a human-contrived system of abuse, constitutes an ethical solution to the suffering of these animals. Consider the fact that:

Suffering involves more than the ability to feel pain. Suffering refers to a wound, injury, trauma or harm sustained by a sentient individual whether or not the individual experiences the injury in the form of pain per se. For example, a brain concussion or a malignant tumor may not be experienced by the individual until the disease has progressed. Destroying a creature’s brain, nervous system and other mind and body parts necessarily inflicts suffering on that creature, in this case, to fit helpless animals into a cruel system of commercial confinement.

To de-wing, de-brain and otherwise amputate a part of an animal’s very self in order to fit the animal into an abusive system, and then seek to justify the harm as being performed for the animal’s benefit, represents an ultimate lack of respect for the victim of an enterprise that presumably few would embrace if, instead of chickens or other nonhuman beings, the proposed recipients were human beings. One matter of concern is the likely survival of memory in the mutilated creature of who he or she was before the mutilation was inflicted, as in the case of phantom limb pain.

The neurologist Oliver Sacks discussed the persistence of what he called “emotional memory” in people suffering from amnesia who have lost the ability to connect and recall the daily events of their lives, but who nevertheless appear to have “deep emotional memories or associations . . . in the limbic system and other regions of the brain where emotional memories are represented.”

The consciousness of other animals including birds is similarly rooted in and shaped by emotional memory. Birds possess limbic systems and other regions of the brain that give rise to experience in much the same way as the human cerebral cortex. Scientists cite neurological evidence that the amputated stump of a debeaked bird continues to discharge abnormal nerves in fibers running from the beak stump for weeks after beak trimming, similar to what happens in human amputees. A “memory” of the amputated beak part persists in the brain, beak, and facial sensations, even after healing has

occurred.

Scientists also cite the persistence of “ancestral memories” in factory-farmed chickens who, though they have never personally experienced the ground under their feet, show the same drive, given the chance, to scratch the soil for food as do their jungle-fowl relatives who spend hours scratching away at the leaves of the forest floor to reach the tiny bamboo seeds they so love.

Perhaps these deeply structured memory formations, retentions, and ineffable networks of knowledge in the body and brain of a factory-farmed chicken give rise to “phantom limbic memories”—to subjective, embodied experiences in which even dismembered or mutilated body parts awaken a distant memory of who he or she really is, or was. Wingless, beakless, and brain-damaged, do the chickens recall their wholeness in the phantom limbic soul of themselves? And if they do, are such memories of their essential identity, experienced as a compensation or a curse?

We have become accustomed, through the environmental movement, to think of species extinction as the worst fate that can befall a sentient organism. But

the chicken’s doom, engineered by humanity, is not to become extinct, but to proliferate endlessly in agony.

This topic is addressed in Karen Davis’s article “**Chicken-Human Relationships: From Procrustean Genocide to Empathic Anthropomorphism**” published in *Spring Journal*, edited by Gay Bradshaw, and in *Critical Theory and Animal Liberation*, edited by John Sanbonmatsu under the title “Procrustean Solutions to Animal Identity and Welfare Problems.”



These hens were fitted with red contact lenses for a student project in the poultry unit at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, CA in the 1990s. There is no cruelty that animal agribusiness will not inflict on its victims and call it “welfare.”

“Ethics” of Evisceration: Destroying the *Being* of a Bird for “Better Welfare”

The question has been asked whether the suffering of industrially-raised chickens could be scientifically eliminated. What if scientists could create chickens and other farmed animals whose “adjustment” to pathogenicity consisted in their inability to experience their own existence? In the 1990s, an engineer predicted that the future of chicken and egg production would come to resemble “industrial-scale versions of the heart-lung machines that brain-dead human beings need a court order to get unplugged from.” As long as they don’t “feel” anything, is it ethical to do this to chickens?

Agribusiness philosopher Paul Thompson argued that if blind chickens “don’t mind” being crowded together in confinement as much as do chickens who can see, it would “improve animal welfare” to breed blind chickens. A breeder of featherless chickens in Israel claimed “welfare” benefits for naked chickens on factory farms,

despite the fact that feathers help to protect the birds’ delicate skin from injuries and infections, which is all the more necessary in an environment thick with aerial pollution and ammoniated, fecal-soaked floors. Philosopher Peter Singer, asked if he would consider it ethical to engineer a “brainless bird,” grown strictly for meat, said he would consider it “an ethical improvement on the present system, because it would eliminate the suffering that these birds are feeling.”

But would it? What if the chicken’s brain could be scientifically expunged? What if the elements of memory, instinct, sensation and emotion could be eliminated and a brainless chicken constructed? In the UK, an architecture student named Andre Ford proposed what he called the “Headless Chicken Solution” to the suffering of chickens on factory farms.

He envisioned the removal of the chicken’s cerebral cortex. Removing the cerebral cortex, he said, would inhibit the bird’s sensory perceptions so that chickens could be mass-produced without

awareness of themselves or their situation in a technologized universe that would make it easier for the chicken industry to make even more money facilitating ever greater consumption of chicken products.

Like Singer, Ford equates removing the chicken's brain with the "removal of suffering." In reality, the suffering of chickens on factory farms is more profoundly complex than science fiction and shallow "welfare" solutions. Chicken brain removal, far from removing suffering, takes suffering – the condition of injury or trauma whether consciously

felt or not– to the ultimate limit of destroying the biological and psychological integrity of the bird. It accords with the agribusiness view of farmed animals as mere raw material to be manipulated at will.

According to the poultry industry, "The technology built into buildings and equipment is embodied genetically into the chicken itself." Taking this "embodiment" to the ultimate level of avian degradation will not eradicate the suffering of chickens or our relentless mistreatment of them. –
Karen Davis

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.



Ruby & Ivy, photo: Jim Robertson

See our merchandise pages for posters & brochures, also available at www.upc-online.org/merchandise.

What Wings Are For!

Thank you for making every day Respect for Chickens Day!

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.

For Liz Jacobelly and family in memory of Jean, your loving mother, who was a strong, courageous, dedicated and compassionate activist for animals. She will be deeply missed. – *Ronnie Steinau*

My donation is in honor of my hen, Rihanna, who was a beautiful, smart and friendly girl! – *Jan Sinnott* (her “grandmother”)

This donation is made as both a Christmas present and in appreciation of her compassion for animals on behalf of Jamie Kordack, my wife. Many thanks for your work and keep up your efforts for UPC. – *Vincent Kordack*

My donation is in honor of my mom, Edith, who loved her rescued birds. – *Heather Browning*

My donation is for all the lost souls, especially Celeste, Ping Ping, and Foxcat. – *Susan Shaw*

My donation is in memory and in honor of your beloved rooster, Gentleman Jules. – *Jeanne Bowles*

Our donation is In Memoriam for Nancy Hild. – *Marianne C. Stanis and Mike Baur*

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*



Liqin Cao and Freddaflower

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Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier

It Isn't Just Tyson: The Whole Chicken Industry is Horrible

By Karen Davis, President of United Poultry Concerns

"The industry talks about 'humane treatment' and 'animal welfare' to silence opposition. The National Chicken Council brandishes 'science and data' versus 'activists' emotional rhetoric.' Yet the very science it cites supports and motivates our emotional rhetoric."

In 2017, Compassion Over Killing released a video showing Tyson workers in Temperanceville, Virginia abusing the company's chickens for personal amusement – a standard practice in this violent industry. UPC's president, Karen Davis, published the following op-ed in *The Eastern Shore News*.

Regarding "Hit him on the head, then kill him," by Carol Vaughn of the *Eastern Shore News* Dec. 9: I wish to address a specific cruelty noted in the article: the breeding of chickens for forced rapid growth – a practice dating to the 1940s and earlier in the 20th century.

Though poultry researchers have studied growth-induced diseases in chickens for decades, the National Chicken Council, which represents the U.S. industry, says the industry will continue raising chickens to heavier weights and larger sizes. Average bird weights are "just over six pounds," an industry spokesman told a seminar in 2016, "but the big-bird segment is seeing average weights of nine to 10 pounds."

On the one hand, the Department of Agriculture bragged in 1982 that if humans grew at the same rate as chickens raised for meat, "an 8-week-old baby would weigh 349 pounds."

On the other hand, these chickens grow so large and fast that their hearts and lungs cannot support their body weight, resulting in congestive heart failure and tremendous death rates.

Also studied for decades are the painful skeletal deformities caused by the forced rapid growth of chickens. Explains animal scientist John Webster, "Genetic selection of broiler chickens for rapid growth and gross hypertrophy of the breast muscle has created serious problems of 'leg weakness' in the heavy, fastest-growing strains. 'Leg weakness' is a euphemism," he says, "used to describe but not diagnose a long and depressing list of pathological conditions" of bones,

tendons, and skin in birds bred for meat.

And there's more. "Trends in developmental anomalies in contemporary broiler chickens," published in *International Hatchery Practice* in 2013, observed that chickens with extra legs and wings, missing eyes and beak deformities "can be found in practically every broiler flock." On almost every chicken farm, the article states, "a variety of health problems involving muscular, digestive, cardiovascular, integumentary, skeletal, and immune systems" form a constellation of manmade diseases.

Author Andrew A. Olkowski, DVM, presents "solid evidence that anatomical anomalies have become deep-rooted in the phenotype of contemporary broiler chickens."

I've witnessed these anomalies firsthand since the 1980s when I started rescuing and caring for chickens previously owned by Tyson and other companies on the Eastern Shore.

When you pick up a chicken who fell off a truck on the way to the slaughter plant, the huge white bird with the little peeping voice and baby blue eyes feels like liquid cement.

The industry talks about "humane treatment" and "animal welfare" to silence opposition. The National Chicken Council brandishes "science and data" versus "activists' emotional rhetoric." Yet the very science it cites supports and motivates our emotional rhetoric. Consider that a normal chicken weighs barely a pound at six weeks old – not 6 pounds at that age. The drive to produce ever larger, heavier birds has produced a bird



Photo of Laura Alexander and Virgil Butler By Karen Davis

caged in a body that poultry researchers describe as unfit and unhealthy.

Back in 2003, a Tyson employee in Arkansas, named Virgil Butler, described the cruelty and animal suffering he witnessed and took part in for years before leaving the business, unable to stomach it any more. Together with his partner, Laura Alexander, he became a vegetarian and a compassionate spokesperson for the chickens. Before dying in December 2006 of complications resulting from the work he had done that wrecked him both physically and emotionally, Virgil Butler he wrote:

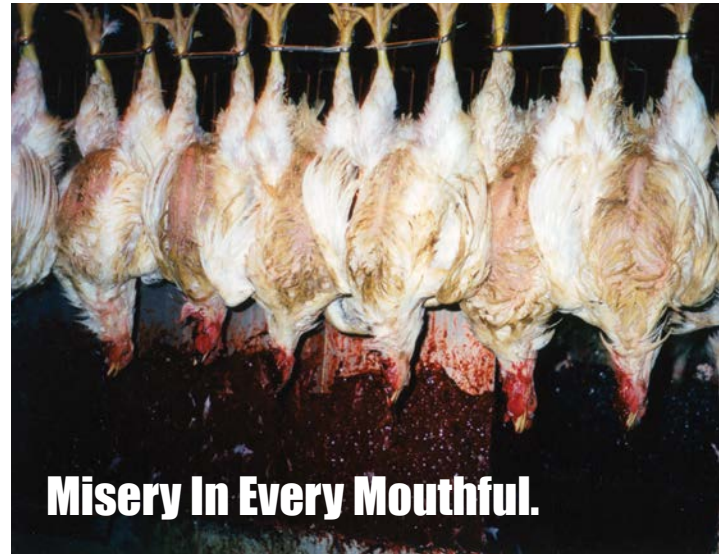
"We could no longer look at a piece of meat anymore without seeing the sad face of the suffering animal who had lived in it when the animal was still alive." He told how, at the slaughter plant where he worked, "The chickens hang there and look at you while they are bleeding. They try to hide their head 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."

I am grateful to the *Eastern Shore News* for putting the sad but illuminating story of the chickens on the front page. I hope it will encourage readers to stop eating chickens in favor of compassionate animal-free foods.

Karen Davis, PhD, President
United Poultry Concerns
Published December 20, 2018



Karen Davis, president of United Poultry Concerns, holds Miss Chard in the Virginia Press Association's award-winning personality portrait photo by Jay Diem, Nov. 17, 2014.



Misery In Every Mouthful.

"The chickens hang there and look at you while they are bleeding. 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, former Tyson chicken slaughterhouse worker

Millions of chickens are scalded alive each year. In tanks of boiling water "the chickens scream, kick, and their eyeballs pop out of their heads," said Virgil Butler, who quit the chicken business and became a vegetarian. He said: "I could



no longer look at a piece of meat anymore without seeing the sad face of the suffering animal who had lived in it when she was alive."

Please choose compassion for chickens & a kinder world with a heart healthy vegan diet. For delicious recipes, visit www.upc-online.org/recipes.

United Poultry Concerns • PO box 150 • Machipongo, VA 23405
757-678-7875 • Info@upc-online.org • www.upc-online.org



United Poultry Concerns is a nonprofit organization that promotes the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl.

United Poultry Concerns is running this ad in current issues of the student newspaper *The Diamondback* at the University of Maryland – College Park, Maryland.

Ronnie Steinau – An Appreciation

We met at the Taking Action for Animals Conference in Washington, DC in August 2006. Ronnie and friends from San Diego, CA stopped by our exhibit table and we talked about the plight of chickens. She said she wished she could work for animals instead of her current employment. It so happened we needed a new database manager and Correspondent starting in September. Would she be interested? Turned out she would be.



Twelve years later, Ronnie is a dynamic member of our staff. If you're a donor to UPC, you've met her, thanking you for your support, answering your questions, always helpful and courteous. Ronnie is a tireless activist as well. She energizes fellow activists to get out there and leaflet for the birds and speak up for them – in shopping malls, recreational

parks – all kinds of places where people are gathered for pleasure. One of our members recently wrote thanking Ronnie for providing helpful information: "Thank you, Ronnie! And thank you, really, for all that YOU do at UPC. Karen and all of us are lucky to have you. Not to mention the birds!"

We are indeed lucky to have Ronnie on our staff. She is a totally dedicated animal rights vegan activist who both finds and creates opportunities to interrupt the comfort zones: Remember the Animals. Please Help Them. Don't Eat Them. Choose Vegan. – *Karen Davis*



Photos of Ronnie Steinau, March 2018

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 1600+ 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!

Start iGiving at: www.iGive.com/UPC & www.iSearchiGive.com/UPC.

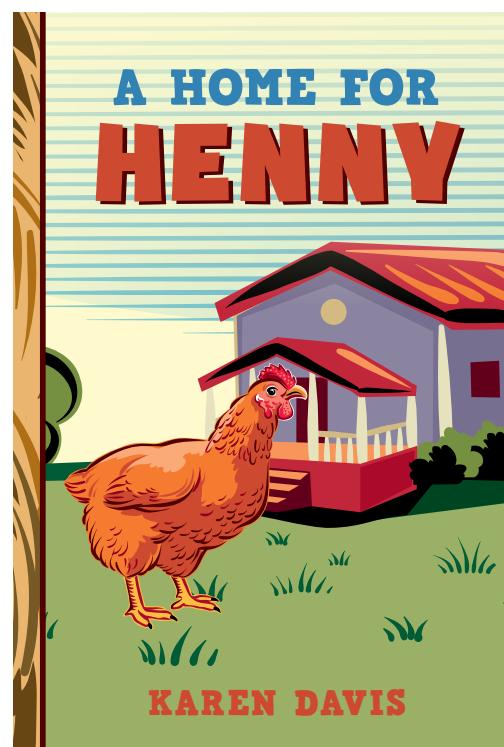
You can also install the iGive Toolbar 3.0 now at www.iSearchiGive.com/UPC and help UPC get every possible donation when you shop or search online!



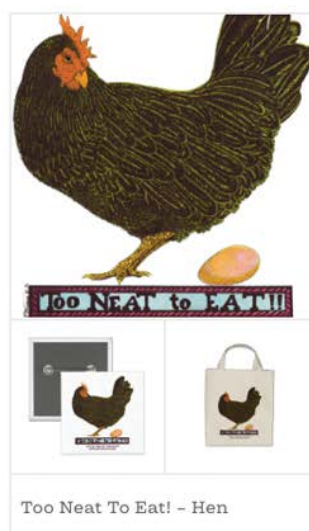
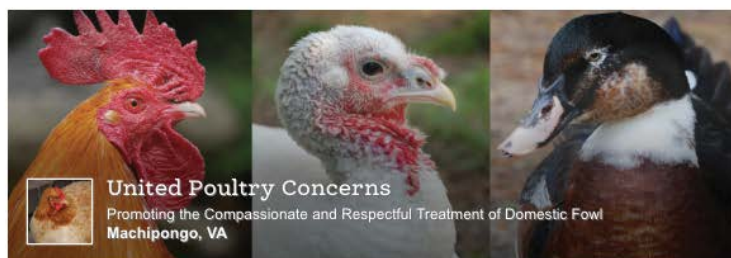
A Home for Henny by Karen Davis – For the Love of Chickens! \$6.99. Order 5 copies for \$15.

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.

Do you have elementary school-age children at home? Nieces or Nephews? Friends with children? *A Home for Henny* is the perfect story to teach children compassion for chickens and why chick-hatching programs don't belong in our schools. Donate a copy (or several!) to your local elementary schools and the children's section of your local libraries.



Wings T-shirts, Mugs, Bags, and more available at
www.zazzle.com/unitedpoultryconcern



*Vegan Recipe Corner***Coconut Curry Chickpea Stew**

I found this recipe in Giant Food's Savory magazine. It's so good and so simple. I made it 3 times already!

-Liqin Cao

4 Servings.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup onion
- 1 cup carrot
- 1 cup cauliflower
- 4 cups of zucchini
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon curry powder
- 1 (13.6 oz) can coconut milk
- 2 (14.5 oz) cans chickpeas

Directions

1. Heat a large greased skillet on medium-high. Finely chop the onion and carrot. Add to skillet. Cook 5 min.
2. Add cauliflower to skillet and cook 2 min.
3. Meanwhile, cut the zucchini into 1-inch chunks and add to skillet. Cook vegetables 3 min., until golden, stirring occasionally.
4. Stir in the curry powder and cook 1 min.
5. Add the coconut milk and heat to a simmer. Season with salt.
6. Drain and rinse the chickpeas, and add to skillet. Cook 8–10 min., until zucchini is tender.

*For more great recipes, go to
www.upc-online.org/recipes!*



Photo by Liqin Cao

POSTCARDS

20 for \$4.00, 40 for \$7.50



"Love is Best"



"Peaceable Kingdom"



"Chickens - To Know Them is to Love Them"



"Misery is Not a Health Food"

Life Can Be Beautiful - Go Vegan! Brochure

24 full-color
5.5" x 8.5" pages.
Now in Spanish!

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50 for \$10.00.
100 for \$15.00.
200 for \$25.00.



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All Prices Include Postage

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or money order to:

United Poultry Concerns
P.O. Box 150
Machipongo, VA 23405-0150

Or order online at upc-online.org

FACT SHEETS

20 for \$3.00

"Viva, the Chicken Hen / Chickens
Raised for Meat"
"Jane-one tiny chicken foot"
"Starving Poultry for Profit" (forced
molting)
"Poultry Slaughter: The Need for
Legislation"
"The Rougher They Look, The Better
They Lay" (free-range egg production)
"Intensive Poultry Production: Fouling
the Environment"
"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"
"Chicken for Dinner: It's Enough To
Make You Sick"
"Guide to Staffing Tables: Do's & Don'ts"
"Henny's New Friends"
"Avoiding Burnout"
"The Life of One Battery Hen"
"Bird Flu - What You Need to Know"
"How I Learned the Truth About Eggs"

"Peeper the Turkey, a Story of Endless
Love"
"Factory Farming vs. Alternative Farming:
The Humane Hoax"

BROCHURES

20 for \$3.00

"A Wing & A Prayer" (Kapparot ritual)
"Don't Plants Have Feelings Too?"
"Chickens"
"The Battery Hen"
"Turkeys"
"Ostriches & Emus: Nowhere To Hide"
"Japanese Quail"
"The Use of Birds In Agricultural and
Biomedical Research"
"'Free-Range' Poultry and Eggs: Not All
They're Cracked Up to Be" - New &
Revised!
"Live Poultry Markets" (in English,
Spanish, & Chinese)
"Chicken-Flying Contests"

LEAFLETS (FLYERS)

10 for \$1.00, 25 for \$2.50

"Chicken for Dinner?"
"The 'Human' Nature of Pigeons"
"The Truth about Feather Hair Extensions"
"Birds Suffer Horribly for Pillows & Coats"

Bumper Stickers

Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Get the Slaughterhouse out of your
Kitchen. \$1 each

Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Go Vegan. \$1 each

Beautiful Chicken and Turkey Buttons

\$2 each. 3 for \$5. 10 for \$10. Any mixture.

Stick Up For Chickens • Chickens are Friends, Not Food
Turkeys are Friends, Not Food • End Chickens as Kaporos
Be Kind to Turkeys - Don't Gobble Me



T-shirts Too Neat to Eat (Hen &
Egg or Rooster) • Give a Cluck. Go
Vegan! • Available in Unisex (S, M, L,
XL) or Ladies (S, M, L, XL) \$20



BOOKS

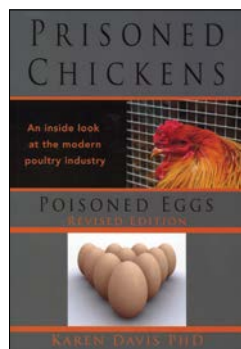
**Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs:
An Inside Look at the Modern
Poultry Industry**

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."

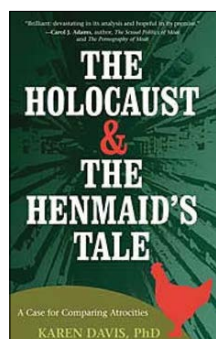
– *Choice magazine, American*

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**

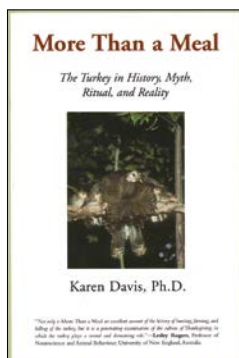
By Karen Davis

In this thoughtful and thought-provoking 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

**More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History,
Myth, Ritual, and Reality**

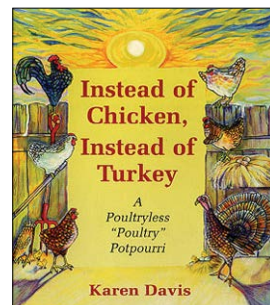
By Karen Davis

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**

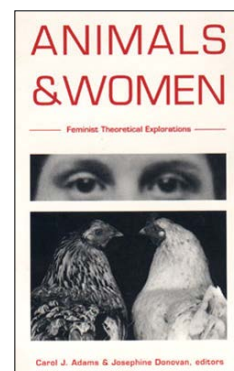
By Karen Davis

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

**Animals and Women:
Feminist Theoretical
Explorations** Edited by Carol J.

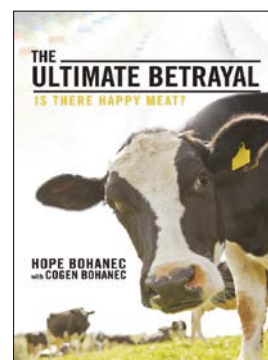
Adams & Josephine Donovan

"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 disturb feminists and animal advocates alike." – Review by Deborah Tanzer, Ph.D. in *The Animals' Agenda*. \$16.95

**The Ultimate Betrayal:
Is There Happy Meat?**

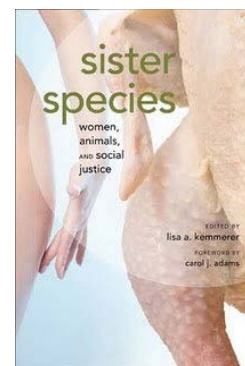
By Hope Bohanec

The Ultimate Betrayal lifts the veil of secrecy surrounding animal farming, offering a rare look inside the world of alternative animal agriculture. \$14.95

**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 non-human animals and a more just and compassionate world. \$14.95

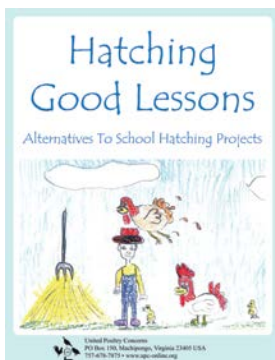


CHILDREN'S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Hatching Good Lessons: Alternatives To School Hatching Projects

By United Poultry Concerns

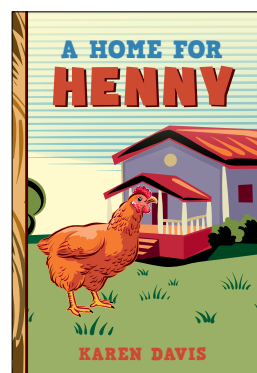
A guide booklet for elementary school teachers and other educators including parents. Revised & Updated, 2013. 16 pages of information, storytelling, classroom activities & color photos. Grades K-6 (some activities are designed for K-12). \$2.50 per booklet. 5 for \$5. It can be viewed and printed out at www.upc-online.org/hatching/.



A Boy, A Chicken and The Lion of Judah – How Ari Became a Vegetarian

By Roberta Kalechofsky

This wonderfully gifted children's story, set in modern Israel, is about a young boy's quest for moral independence. An intelligent book for all ages. Winner of the Fund for Animals "Kind Writers Make Kind Readers Award." \$10



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



Dave Loves Chickens

By Carlos Patino

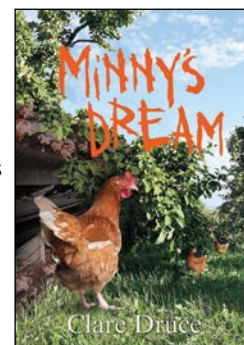
Dave is a quirky monster from another planet who loves chickens and all animals on Earth. He encourages people to share his love and not eat any

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

Minnie's Dream

By Clare Druce

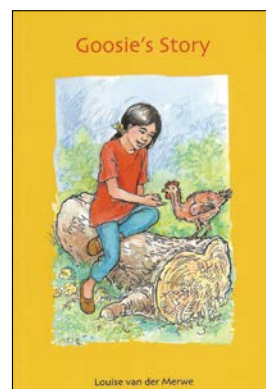
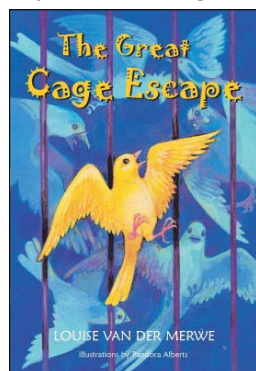
What happens when a young girl from the city discovers a battery-hen operation in the country? What happens when a "battery hen" named Minny speaks to her? What must she do when her friend Minny is going to be killed? This book is a must for the young person(s) in your life, age 8-14. \$10



The Great Cage Escape

Grades 4-7. By Louise Van Der Merwe

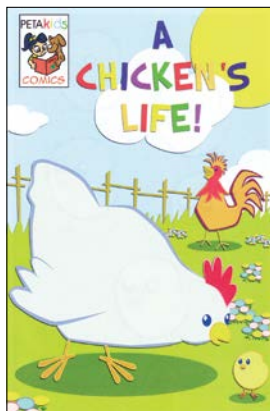
The birds in a pet shop think they are happy until a brown box punched full of air holes is left overnight on their front door step. The creature inside looks very weird at first. But as his feathers begin to grow, his true identity becomes apparent, and the stories he tells inspire the pet shop birds to pull off a Great Cage Escape. This is a story that encourages respect for all forms of life and helps learners realize that heaven can be right here on earth if we choose to make it so. \$4.95



Goosie's Story

By Louise Van Der Merwe

A touching story about a "battery" hen who is given a chance to lead a normal life – a happy life. This moving book will be warmly welcomed and shared by children, parents and teachers, highlighting as it does the concern and compassion we ought to feel for all our feathered friends on this earth. \$4.95



A Chicken's Life!

Grades 4-6. PETAkids Comics

This cute comic book illustrates a group of children visiting an animal sanctuary where they meet a flock of chickens and learn all about them including the differences between Nature's Way and The Factory Farm Way. "Are these chickens really your friends?" they ask. "I've never met a chicken before." *A Chicken's Life* includes a puzzle for elementary school students to unscramble

words including barn, beak, cluck, feathers, grass, hatch, peck, peep, wings, and lots more. \$1.50 each. 10 for \$10.

More Books, plus Videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise

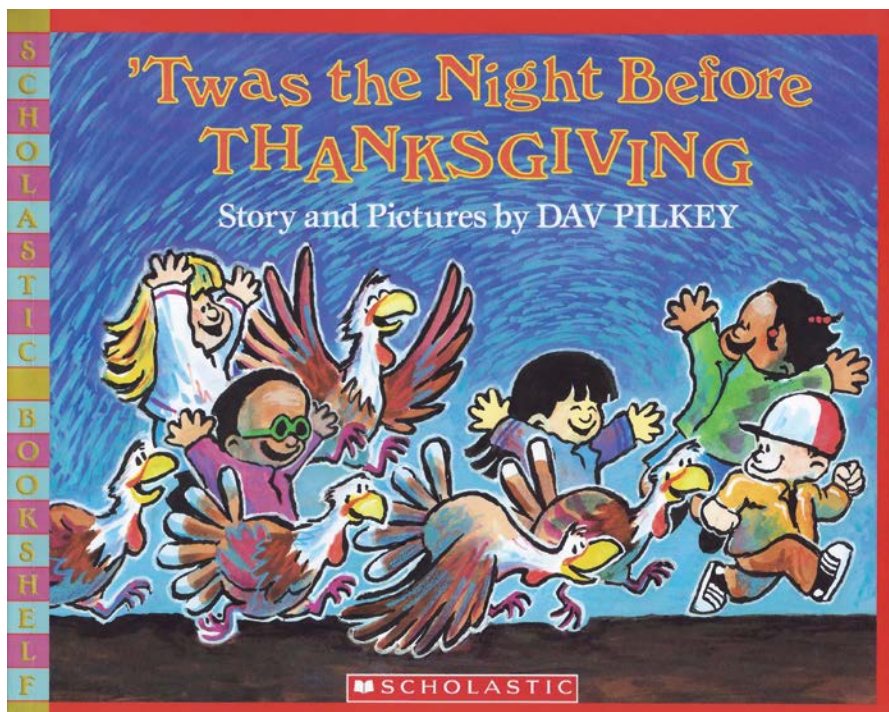
(continued) CHILDREN'S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS***'Twas the Night Before THANKSGIVING***

Story and Pictures by Dav Pilkey

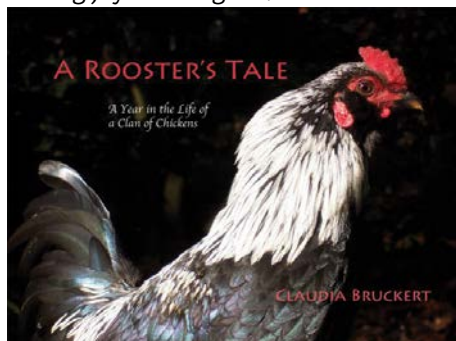
Scholastic Book Shelf

Available from United Poultry Concerns \$6.99

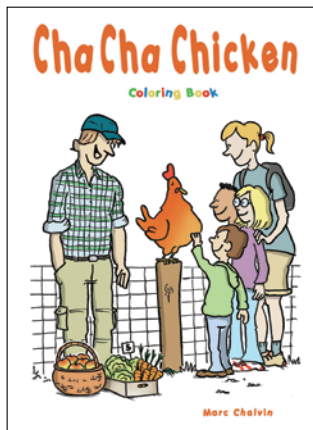
Turkeys don't usually celebrate Thanksgiving. And they wish we wouldn't either! Here is a tale of eight children who meet eight turkeys who are in big trouble. Only the kids can keep the turkeys from meeting their Thanksgiving fate. But how will they save the turkeys?

**A Rooster's Tale: A Year in the Life of a Clan of Chickens**, by Claudia Bruckert,

transports readers to the fascinating world of Change, who tells the real life story of his chicken family during his first year of life. Enchanting experiences and intriguing facts, chronicled and photographed beautifully over the course of one year, convey deep insights into the daily life of chickens. Grades 3-12 and a reading joy for all ages. \$20

**Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book** By Marc Chalvin

Narrated by Cha Cha the hen, this book invites children to visit Green Farm sanctuary and learn about the happy animals who live there. Written by Marian Hailey-Moss and illustrated by Marc Chalvin, Cha Cha shows children that chickens are people too and invites them to color their world beautiful! *Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book* is a delightful gift for children K-3. \$10

**Chickens at Play**

By United Poultry Concerns

This vibrant video shows chickens at the United Poultry Concerns sanctuary accompanied by lively music, with brief explanations of what the chickens are doing throughout their daily activities into the evening as, one by one, they hop up to their perches for the night. Narrated by a young child. 10:04 minutes. DVD. \$5. \$12.50 for 5. Watch: <http://vimeo.com/13210456>



More books and videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise

Stickers Send a message with your mail! Order our eye-catching color stickers! 100 stickers for \$10.



With Heart and Voice - a Beautiful Greeting Card from UPC \$19.95 for 20 cards. \$38.95 for 40 cards, envelopes included. Single card & envelope \$1.00.



POSTERS



International Respect for Chickens Day

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".



Today's chickens are forced to grow too big too fast. They're forced to live in filth. 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.

Walking to Freedom After a Year in Cages

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

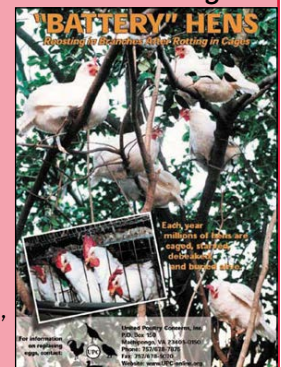


"Battery" Hens

Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages

Photo by Susan Rayfield

This beautiful color poster shows the rescued Cypress hens at UPC. Perfect for your office, your home, your school. 11.5"x16".



Great Turkeys Poster!

Photos by Barbara Davidson & Susan Rayfield

The posters are in color, and come in two sizes: 11.5" x 16", and 18" x 27".

**UPC posters in any mix:
One for \$4. Two for \$5.
Three for \$7.**

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Horrible Chicken Industry
International Respect for Chickens Day
Targeting NYC Health Commissioner
Saving Ducks
Freddaflower Fund
Recipe Corner & More!

Wishing You a Happy Spring!
Please renew your membership for 2018



UPC Photo by Belle Cifu

UPC Welcomes Four Ducks to Our Sanctuary!

We're delighted to share with you the joyful moments when four ducks rescued from a hoarding situation in Virginia arrived safely at our sanctuary on Monday, February 19th. With water to refresh themselves and splash in, Reginald, Daryl Duck, Jewel and Jamaica rejuvenated instantly! We thank Belle Cifu of Animal Justice Advocates at the University of Virginia for arranging their transfer and for driving them to our sanctuary Monday morning. They wanted so badly to have a bath!