

Stop exploiting other creatures

Patricia Horton writes (Sept. 23): "Cows are specifically reared for the purpose of consumption. Whales and dolphins, on the other hand, are protected and endangered species." By saying this, she justifies the killing of cows, but criticizes the killing of whales and dolphins.

And she wants the person who justifies the killing of whales from the ecological point of view to recognize the "incredible suffering imposed upon the helpless, squealing creatures... left to die a slow, painful death."

I am outraged by the arrogance and lack of compassion of humans toward other creatures on the planet. Have you ever seen or even just thought about the downed cows — the cows who had originally been used as mere "milk-supplying" conveniences, and eventually, when found unproductive, sold to provide "meat" — being left deserted as "valueless things" to "die a slow, painful death"? Have you ever seen the sad eyes of calves who are born to be confined, chained all through their short lives, just to be killed because some humans want to eat their soft white "veal"? Can anyone really justify the intentional killing of any animal just because that's the way it has been and that's the way it is going to be, with an excuse that the animal is not among the endangered species?

So many people seem to have forgotten that we humans are just one species on Earth. So many people live as if other creatures were here to be exploited.

Horton wonders if this inhumane slaughter (of whales) is really necessary. How many readers cannot really survive without intentionally slaughtering other animals? We have a choice to lead a cruelty-free life. Please do not turn your blind eyes to the animals in the world.

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Open Letter