

Does the killing of animals and people have a desensitizing effect on human con-
duct?

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Does the killing of animals and people have a desensitizing effect on human conduct?

It is no coincidence that every second 3,000 animals are killed for the use of food by humans every year and instances of humans killing each other occur every 60 seconds. This causes an implication of desensitization to killing. For example, wars all over the world and excessive amount of murders and extensive wars. However, there must be some case of humanity left because there are organizations and charities supporting human or animal rights and, selfless acts of kindness still take place.

According to Dr. Hillman,

“Farm animals are stunned by electricity or percussion, and killed by cutting the blood vessels in the neck, causing exsanguination. The halal and shechita method, used by Moslems and Jews, involves cutting the neck without stunning the animals. Shooting may be at close quarters. Fish caught at sea or by anglers die of asphyxia, when they are taken out of the water; anglers sometimes throw fish back after withdrawing the hooks; the fish may then die of inability to eat, or microbial or fungal infections. Trapping, snaring and hunting are rarely used in Britain for animals which are to be eaten.” (Hillman, "The Slaughter of Animals for Food", 2015)

Once again, the idea of torturing innocent animals is reinforced in the extract from this article. In my opinion, regardless of the different methods used to slaughter animals, none of them are humane or fair in any way. It is understood that humans need food to eat, but there needs to be a better way of killing the animals. It shouldn't lead to cringing statistics and heartbreaking pictures of animals who were wrongfully murdered.

Harold Hillman is a British scientist and expert in the neurobiology of execution methods. He also received a Nobel Peace Prize for his report on "The Possible Pain Experienced During Execution by Different Methods". However, Hillman's expertise is in various types of sciences including, neurobiology, cytology, and cell biology and neither pertain directly to animal mistreatment.

Not only are humans unkind to animals, but we are extremely cruel to each other. It could be said that we are the only species that is violent to one another and enjoys doing it. In the instance of war, the majority of the time it takes place over greed or a disagreement in opinion or belief.

According to BBC,

“In the 1970s and 1980s Uganda was notorious for its human rights abuses, first during the military dictatorship of Idi Amin from 1971-79 and then after

the return to power of Milton Obote, who had been ousted by Amin. During this time up to half a million people were killed in state-sponsored violence.” (“Uganda country profile - BBC News”, May 21st, 2015)

During the civil war in Uganda, thousands of people were killed. In most instances receiving word of the on going fighting would outrage the government, but in this case they encouraged the war. The government forgot that its people they are fighting just for the simple purpose of greed and never having enough.

BBC sets out to enrich people’s lives with programs and services that inform, educate and entertain. However, some people don’t trust their information because of the independence of their experts featured on the programs.

Wars extend internationally. It could be shown that humans are always looking for bigger and better things. This could be a blessing or a curse. When it comes down to an expanding empire, wanting more is a curse.

According to Quodibeta,

“Khan and his successors managed to wipe out 40,000,000 people...The Mongol invasions of Islamic lands in the 13th century resulted in the massacre of 1.3 million people in the city of Merv alone, and another 800,000 residents of Baghdad.” (“Quodlibeta: How bad were the Mongols?”, 2015)

In the instance of the Mongol conquests, it is shown that war isn’t a new concept to our world. We’ve grown out of most things and concepts, if we hadn’t humans would still be cavemen trying to keep warm by a fire instead of the comfort of a blanket or a home. So why are we still conducting ourselves in such a violent manner towards animals and humans alike. To tie this back to our inexcusable methods of slaughtering, countries show no remorse to slaughter of human beings and animals alike. Humans want more, and they take it without a second thought of the repercussions so much so that as a species, we are willing to go to war on what they want.

Quodlibet Online Journal of Christian Theology and Philosophy is designed primarily for articles that address theological and philosophical issues from a Christian perspective, and for articles from any perspective that deal critically with the theological and philosophical credentials of the Christian faith. But, their information is biased toward religion in some instances.

Along with war being a major issue within our species, murdering (sometimes for no reason at all) is on the rise.

According to Business Insider, “In San Pedro Sula, Honduras last year, 187 were murdered for every 100,000 people. That tragic statistic makes the city the most violent in the world.”

During my research on the city of San Pedro Sula, two rival gangs whom fought over cocaine imports did the majority of the killings. Every hour there are 14 killings.

Business Insider was launched in 2007 by former top-ranked Wall Street analyst Henry Blodget and DoubleClick executives Dwight Merriman and Kevin Ryan, the site is now the largest business news site on the web and also allows feed back from viewers. But the Editor-In-Chief, Henry Blodget was charged with securities fraud in 2003.

According to CNN,

“What happened to transform a trained pharmacist and a county health inspector into terrorists, and when did they take that dark turn... Investigators are still trying to piece together profiles of the couple who killed 14 people and died in a gun battle with police last week. They're also working to pinpoint whether anyone in the United States or abroad helped finance and shape the plot.” (“San Bernardino investigation: Past plot, recent loan - CNN.com”, December 8, 2015)

The most recent incident of a possible terrorist attack took place this month in California. The question about who could've committed this crime shows the conduct of humans themselves. There are several possible candidates of groups who could've murdered innocent people.

CNN's objective is to provide the best possible news coverage to the public by providing full coverage about political issues but we also provide our audience with news about sports, entertainment, technology, healthy living, business, and other trending topics. But over the past 10 years, they've had the lowest viewings ever due to their lack of professionalism. Some people go as far to calling them the “communist news network”

However, around the world there are still selfless acts of kindness.

According to A+E Networks,

“Mother Teresa taught in India for 17 years before she experienced her 1946 “call within a call” to devote herself to caring for the sick and poor. Her order established a hospice; centers for the blind, aged, and disabled; and a leper colony. In 1979 she received the Nobel Peace Prize for her humanitarian work.” (A&E Television Networks, “Mother Teresa”, 2015)

A woman who came from very little, dedicated every ounce of her being to the people who desperately needed it. Yet she expected nothing in return. Mother Teresa's happiness came from caring for others. She was also extremely sick herself while carrying over 500 missions to those in need.

A+E Networks is a global media company with joint ventures and channels all over the world. The International division oversees 50 channels around the world, reaching more than 300 million subscribers in over 150 countries in 37 languages. However, in the early 2000's AE caved in to main stream ways to attract a younger audience by producing reality TV instead of their original focus, the fine arts.

According to WilliamJohnson.com,

“On 9/11, Rodriguez initially rescued fifteen (15) persons from the WTC, and as Rodriguez was the only person at the site with the master key to the North Tower stairwells, he bravely led firefighters up the stairwell, unlocking doors as they ascended, thereby aiding in the successful evacuation of unknown hundreds of those who survived. Rodriguez, at great risk to his own life, re-entered the Towers three times after the first, North Tower impact at about 8:46 A.M., and is believed to be the last person to exit the North Tower alive, surviving the building's collapse by diving beneath a fire truck.” (“William Rodriguez”,2015)

It takes a special kind of person to have that capacity of bravery. But to think there were several men and women who willingly entered those buildings, risking their lives for others, without a second thought. It was almost instinctual.

Yes, humans slaughter animals like we do trees. But it's their selfless acts of kindness that show me there is still some sort of humanity left in this world of greed and selfishness.

This website is dedicated to William Rodriguez in honor of all of his bravery on September 11th, 2001. It provides very descriptive information on his story. But, there is no knowledge on who the author is, which makes the viewer question where they accumulated their research.

There are also charities devoted to making life better for other people and also, animals.

According to Toronto March to Close All Slaughterhouses,

“On June 13, 2015 in Toronto, Ontario, compassionate citizens will hold a peaceful march to demand the closure of all slaughterhouses and to end the violence that we inflict on non-human animals. We will be joined by compassionate citizens across the globe, who will march in solidarity.” (“Toronto March to Close All Slaughterhouses”, 2015)

This and many other groups, congregate to protest the slaughtering of animals. Once again they have no goal but to ensure animals rights and receive nothing in return. Also, they are peaceful protestors, which also shows another sense of humanity by not causing more murders and violence.

This is a group dedicated to peaceful protests on animal rights hoping to one day close all slaughterhouses and have no one eat meat anymore. However, this group doesn't show an alternative perspective.

According to UNICEF, "UNICEF procures vaccines for 40% of the world's children, nearly 3 billion doses annually." ("10 Facts about UNICEF and supply",2015)

The fact that a group cares so much to ensure the health and well being of billions of children they never met and probably never will, is amazing to me. There are still so many people that care about our earth and the humans on it. UNICEF is a most taking on something impossible and is also extremely costly. Their motive must be to lower child mortality rates from disease and by administering vaccines to children internationally, they are making that dream a reality.

UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. However, in a sense they contradict themselves. On their holiday card they show multi-racial children holding hands around a globe. But, they have declared national borders sacred and have defined country of origin.

In my opinion, the world we live in today is terrifying and always changing. However many things we cannot control, we can control how we treat each other. I believe if everyone became a little bit more open minded to a person's respectable opinion, we would all be more understanding, if not optimistic. In light of my research there should be cheaper, more humane method of slaughter. I do understand that there is a major supply and demand factor when it comes to meat processing, and as humans we do things as quickly as possible. However my personal standpoint is humans talk about we should work on violence and slaughter between each other and animals, but we don't actually want to find a better way of conducting ourselves. In the case of the treatment of animals in slaughterhouses, there have been instances of farmers growing their food organically and it costs much less. Of course it takes more time, but there is absolutely no excuse to treat animals in such a way. If animal abuse is illegal why are inhumane methods of slaughter being used internationally and nothing is being done or changed. In the future I'd suggest war and violence to be our last option and the fair treatment to all things (humans or animals).

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