

ANIMAL MANIFESTO. The Politization of The Animal Cause.

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Showing what is at stake in the animal abuse, Corine Pelluchon asserts that the animal cause is also the cause of humankind. To fight against animal abuse requires our denouncing a model of development that is built upon the limitless exploitation of other beings, be they human or non human. Such a commitment means also that we aim at promoting a better and more sustainable society. The animal question is not an isolated field, but it is linked to a new global political theory. Moreover, it concerns everybody, although we do not share the same ideological stances and have opposite interests.

Written for non-specialists and in a lively style, this manifesto provides an original strategy that is in part inspired by A. Lincoln. It succeeds to avoiding two pitfalls : the mere condemnation of animal abuse that divides society or a political compromise that does not satisfy anybody. In the short term it is necessary to help people working in the fashion industry or in animal experimentation to use alternatives to animal products and to foster people adopt a vegan way of life by making it easy to buy vegan food or vegan cloths. Technical innovations and a pragmatic policy helping farmers replace industrialized farms by a more respectful model of husbandry show that the animal cause goes hand in hand with economic growth although the place and meaning of economy has to be reassessed. In the long run, the point is to give citizens and politicians the opportunity to promote a society in which the interests of both humans and animals are taken into account. Corine Pelluchon describes such a zoopolis in which animal rights are taken seriously and shows why, as Marx said, “we have a world to win”.

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