

Proposal to
Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food
for a
Global Transition to Non-Animal Alternatives
by
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I. CCTV to Inform, Mobilize and Sensitize the Public

Recruit the public to monitor and enforce existing animal husbandry regulations through public crowd-sourcing as well as to sensitize the public to the reality of what is currently permissible in animal husbandry.



Mandatory 24/7 CCTV surveillance and recording in all venues where animals are bred, raised, housed, transported, used in any way, or killed.

All the CCTV data are live-streamed and permanently archived as openly accessible on the web, coded for time and location, so that the public can witness, monitor and report any observed abuses within the existing welfare rules as well as to recommend what rules need to be strengthened.

(Note, that II (legislation) is not possible without I (sensitization) first. Only public demand and support can lead to the adoption of II.)

II. Legislate Graduated Tax to Incentivize Transition to Non-Animal Alternatives.

Implement, facilitate and accelerate a transition to non-animal alternatives.



Graded tax, increasing with time, on all consumer purchases of meat, fish, dairy or eggs in supermarkets or restaurants, or any other animal products (such as fur, leather, wool, down). All tax revenue is used as discount on the purchase of non-animal alternatives.

Graded tax on all production and vending of meat, fish, dairy or eggs, or any other animal products (such as fur, leather, wool, down). All tax revenue can be claimed by producers and vendors as rebate for the production and sale of non-animal alternatives.

All unclaimed surplus from the tax revenue is used to provide sanctuaries for animals that survive from the food and fur industries.

Harnad, S:

To Close Slaughterhouses We Must Open People's Hearts. *HuffPost Impact Canada* (2015)

Animal sentence: The other-minds problem. *Animal Sentence*. 2016 1(1)

CCTV, web-streaming and crowd-sourcing to sensitize public to animal suffering. *Animal Justice UK*, 2, Winter Issue

APPENDIX/ANNEXE

Wiebers, David and Feigin, Valery (2020) What the COVID-19 crisis is telling humanity. *Animal Sentience* 30(1)

ABSTRACT: The planet is in a global health emergency exacting enormous medical and economic tolls. It is imperative for us as a society and species to focus and reflect deeply upon what this and other related human health crises are telling us about our role in these increasingly frequent events and about what we can do to prevent them in the future.

Cause: It is human behavior that is responsible for the vast majority of zoonotic diseases that jump the species barrier from animals to humans: (1) hunting, capture, and sale of wild animals for human consumption, particularly in live-animal markets; (2) massive overcrowding of animals for human consumption in stressful and unhygienic industrial “factory farm” environments; (3) large-scale close confinement of animals for human consumption, a major direct cause of mounting antibiotic resistance; (4) vast numbers of wildlife species threatened with extinction from habitat incursion and destruction.

Action: Intensive confinement of animals in factory farm operations should be discontinued worldwide for the sake of animals, humans, and the environment, and we should rapidly evolve to eating other forms of protein that are safer for humans, including plant-based meat alternatives and meat produced by culturing animal cells. Additional investment in plant-based agriculture to grow crops to feed humans rather than livestock for human consumption will feed more people while utilizing far less land and water, allowing for the preservation of vital ecosystems for innumerable species.

Rather than simply attempting to react to crises like COVID-19 after death and destruction are already upon us, we need to address the fundamental underlying causes and act now to prevent the numerous disasters that are literally waiting to happen.

OPEN PEER COMMENTARY:

Cao, Deborah (2020) Global risks of intensive animal farming and the wildlife trade. *Animal Sentience* 30(2)

Eshel, Gidon (2020) Pandemic leadership failures and public health. *Animal Sentience* 30(3)

Greger, Michael (2020) Whenever possible, treat the cause: Shut down the flu factories. *Animal Sentience* 30(4)

Anomaly, Jonathan (2020) Cultured meat would prevent the next Covid crisis. *Animal Sentience* 30(5)

Fox, Michael W. (2020) One planet, one health. *Animal Sentience* 30(6)

Broom, Donald M (2020) The necessity of human attitude change and methods of avoiding pandemics. *Animal Sentience* 30(7)

Schuck-Paim, Cynthia (2020) Intensive animal farming conditions are a major threat to global health. *Animal Sentience* 30(8)

Fawcett, Anne (2020) One Welfare, the role of health professionals, and climate change. *Animal Sentience* 30(9)

Lovell, Jarret S. (2020) Plant-based diets and COVID-19: Those who harvest crops are at high risk. *Animal Sentience* 30(10)

Whitfort, Amanda (2020) China's lack of animal welfare legislation increases the risk of further pandemics. *Animal Sentience* 30(11)

Bryant, Christopher J. (2020) Innovation in meat production: a problem and an opportunity. *Animal Sentience* 30(12)

Feigin, Svetlana (2020) It does not cost the earth to be kind. *Animal Sentience* 30(13)

- Morand, Serge (2020) New approach to health and the environment to avoid future pandemics. *Animal Sentience* 30(14)
- Wyatt, Tanya (2020) Harm, Earth Jurisprudence and human/nonhuman relationships. *Animal Sentience* 30(15)
- Robbins, Jesse (2020) Be wary of simple solutions to complex problems. *Animal Sentience* 30(16)
- Marcum, James A (2020) Can we handle the truth of what COVID-19 is telling us?. *Animal Sentience* 30(17)
- Skerratt, Lee (2020) Wildlife health systems. *Animal Sentience* 30(18)
- Lee, Kelley (2020) Rethinking global governance to address zoonotic disease risks: Connecting the dots. *Animal Sentience* 30(19)
- Kona-Boun, Jean-Jacques (2020) Anthropogenic suffering of farmed animals: the other side of zoonoses. *Animal Sentience* 30(20)
- Toates, Frederick (2020) Covid-19, evolution, brains and psychology. *Animal Sentience* 30(21)
- Bergstrom, Bradley J. (2020) Re-engage with the world for global health and animal welfare. *Animal Sentience* 30(22)
- Davis, Tyler; Ireland, Molly E; Van Allen, Jason; and Worthy, Darrell A (2020) Zoonotic realism, computational cognitive science and pandemic prevention. *Animal Sentience* 30(23)
- Gerlai, Robert (2020) Tribal brains in the global village: Deeper roots of the pandemic. *Animal Sentience* 30(24)
- Wehbe, Yzar S. and Shackelford, Todd K. (2020) Appealing to human intuitions to reduce animal abuse. *Animal Sentience* 30(25)
- Hawkins, Ronnie Z. (2020) Thinking longer, looking deeper. *Animal Sentience* 30(26)
- Urbanik, Julie (2020) Reinforcing boundaries does not contribute to change. *Animal Sentience* 30(27)
- Marazziti, Donatella (2020) Reflections on psychological and psychiatric consequences of COVID-19 pandemic. *Animal Sentience* 30(28)
- Figueroa, Daniela and Duprat, Ximena (2020) Remediating anthropogenic zoonoses. *Animal Sentience* 30(29)

RESPONSE:

Wiebers, David and Feigin, Valery (2021) Heeding the call of COVID-19. *Animal Sentience* 30(30)

Abstract: Our commentators have provided a wide range of valuable perspectives and insights from many fields, revealing a broad interest in the subject matter.

Nearly all the commentaries have helped to affirm, refine, expand, amplify, deepen, interpret, elaborate, or apply the messages in the target article. Some have offered critiques and suggestions that help us address certain issues in greater detail, including several points concerning industrialized farming and the wildlife trade.

Overall, there is great awareness and strong consensus among commentators that **any solution for preventing future pandemics and other related health crises must take into account not only what is best for humans but also what is best for nonhumans and the environment, given the profound interconnectedness of all life.**