

Wednesday's letters: Go vegan to end torture of animals

Edmonton Journal October 15, 2014

Re: "Video of hog 'torture' shocks CEO," Oct. 14

While Mercy for Animals' video may be useful in raising awareness, its concurrent call for welfare reforms ignores the wider issue of domestic animals' legal definition as chattel property.

Because of this definition, cruelty is addressed only insofar as it renders the property unfit for consumption by humans and therefore economically unviable. There is no more recourse for a pig that is kicked than for a stereo that is stolen from an electronics store. Welfare reforms to livestock transportation or handling serve only to increase industry efficiency and improve consumers' attitudes toward the resulting products, not to improve the lives of sentient beings destined for slaughter.

Individuals who are truly interested in seeing the end of abuse of pigs in Red Deer should cease their own participation in the use of all animals everywhere, as far as is practical and possible, by going vegan.

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