

# informative speech "Animals in Factory Farms"

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April 8, 2014

*Animals in Factory Farms*

**Introduction**

Attention Getter	The average American eats approximately 200 lbs. of meat a year. Do we even know how the food we eat gets to our plates?
Thesis Statement	The treatment of animals and food in the American meat and poultry industry are inhumane, unsafe, and sometimes lead to unhealthy products.
Reason to Listen	Many people do not know how animals are brought up in the American farming industries and how they are mass produced. Only a small amount of people control most of the livestock in the U.S. These companies control what kind of meat we eat. It is good to know where your food has come from.
Speaker Credibility	As a meat eater and an animal lover I care for where my meat has come from and what I am actually eating.
Preview of Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I. Only 4 companies run over 80% of the meat production in America.</li><li>II. Chickens and cows in factory farms are neglected and poorly taken care of.</li><li>III. Leads to E.Coli break outs and many recalls due to the procedures of companies.</li></ul>

Transition: America is such a big country but in reality we don't have that many businesses running the meat industry.

**Body**

- I. Only 4 companies run over 80% of the meat production in America.
  - A. Companies like Tyson, Cargill, Smith Field Foods, & JBS. (According to Bernice Napach and the Daily Ticker)

1. The companies find ways to produce products faster, cheaper, and more efficient.
    - a. This leads to mass production of animals and slaughtering.
      - i. Animals are crammed into small confinement systems by thousands.
  2. Companies put less and less money into the farming of the animals.
- B. We now have Factory Farms according to P.E.T.A.
1. Factory farming is an industrialized production of live stalk
    - a. Most of the livestock in the U.S. does not roam freely.
      - i. They are confined to save money and space.
- C. These companies have a tight hold on the meat industry.
1. They control most of our livestock in America.
  2. They can produce a monopoly and raise the price of meat and or lower the quality.

Transition: These companies control most of the livestock in America with the lives of billions of cows chickens turkeys pigs and more.

IV. Chickens and cows in factory farms are neglected and poorly taken care of.

A. 7 billion chickens are killed each year for their flesh and 99% of these animals spend their lives in total confinement. – According to P.E.T.A.

1. Chickens are bred and drugged to grow large quickly that their legs and organs cannot keep up, leading to crippled legs and organ failures. According to P.E.T.A.

a. The birds usually never see daylight, for the sheds have no windows.

i. Thousands of chickens are crammed into a shed, leaving no room for a bird to extend their wings.

b. The ASPCA states, “More than 90% of egg-laying hens in the United States are confined in enclosures called “battery cages” that provide less space, per bird, than a regular 8.5"-by-11" sheet of paper.”

i. This was banned in the European Union in 1999.

2. Most cows in America’s livestock are kept in factory farms.

a. Cows spend most of their lives standing in their own waste in a barren feedlot.

i. If a cow is injured or becomes sick from a harsh diet, it usually does not receive medical attention.

ii. The cow is left to suffer because of the mass amount of them.

B. Cows are fed unnatural grain diets to quickly increase their body weight.

1. Many get sick from this unnatural diet causing illness, pain and sometimes death according to the ASPCA.

2. Cows used for dairy production usually have 2/3 of their tails cut off without pain killers. This is said to keep the utters cleaner according to the ASPCA.

a. Cows are dehorned, either by having them cut off or burned off, and this is generally with no painkillers.

C. Cows are continually impregnated to produce mass amounts of milk.

1. They spend their lives in a constant cycle of impregnation, birth, and milking all with in a few short months according to FarmSanctuary.org.

2. Farmsanctuary.org states “ Usually just within hours of birth, calves are taken away from their mothers. Calves can become so distressed from separations that they become sick, lose weight from not eating, and cry so much that their throats become raw.”

Transition: The actions of the companies towards the animals can lead unhealthy food production and recalls.

III. Actions lead to E.Coli break outs and many recalls due to the procedures of companies.

A. The ASPCA states, “Chickens raised for their flesh, called “broilers” by the chicken industry, spend their entire lives in filthy sheds with tens of thousands of other birds, where intense crowding and confinement lead to outbreaks of disease.”

1. This leads to break outs of E.coli.

a. The break outs create large recalls that contaminate all of the U.S.

i. In case you need to provide even more information on 1a

b. Further information explaining supporting detail 1

2. E.Coli now is in leafy greens and applejuice.

a. This is due to the runoff of the huge factory farms from the cow feces.

i. This spreads to crops around the farms.

B. The FDA inspections have dropped in the last years.

1. It has dropped from 50,000 in 1972 to 9,164 in 2006 according to the movie, Food Inc.

a. This has given companies way more wiggle room to have recalls.

b. The FDA has a declining budget from the government.

C. Hens are crammed so closely together, they are forced to urinate and defecate on one another according to the ASPCA.

1. This can lead to diseased animals.

Transition: Many people are not informed on how animals are treated or how they are raised.

### Conclusion

- Review Thesis                    The treatment of our animals and good can be toxic to humans to consume and inhumane towards the animals.
- Review Main Points:            The meat America consumes, comes from a majority of 4 top meat corporations who control what we eat and how we treat most of our livestock in the U.S.
- Finish with a Clincher:        Do people really know how animals are being raised in factory farms?

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