

LEGAL PERSONHOOD

***“If we do not do something to help these creatures,
we make a mockery of the whole concept of justice.”
Dr. Jane Goodall***

***“Our lives begin to end
the day we become silent about things that matter.”
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.***

Generally speaking, in the most simplistic form, there exist two ideologies within the nonhuman liberation movement—Nonhuman Welfare which concerns the *treatment* of nonhuman beings and Nonhuman Rights which focuses on the *use* of nonhuman beings.

After decades of experimenting with nonhumans’ lives, we now know that nonhuman welfare has failed miserably. The result of its progress remains that even the most “*humane*” nations treat nonhuman beings who are bred for food in ways that would be considered torture if human beings were treated in the same manner.

“[T]he principal problem is not *how* we use animals, but *that* we use animals for human purposes at all. We have no moral justification for using nonhumans, however ‘*humanely*’ we treat them. To the extent that we do use animals, it is, of course, always better to cause less pain than more pain. It is better that a rapist not torture the victim in addition to committing the rape. But just as it is not morally acceptable to commit rape even if you do not torture the victim, it is not morally acceptable to use nonhumans as human resources despite how we treat them. *Distinguished Professor of Law and Nicholas deB. Katzenbach Scholar of Law and Philosophy Gary Francione, Animals as Persons, Essays on the Abolition of Animal Exploitation (New York: Columbia University Press, 2008) 10.*

Beginning in 1985, Professor Gary L. Francione taught Animal Law and eventually formulated his Abolitionist Theory of Animal Rights which is based on sentience as “the necessary and sufficient condition for the possession of rights.” Specifically, Professor Francione argues that “all sentient beings...have a fundamental interest in avoiding suffering and continuing to exist.” *Id. at ix.*

Professor Francione argues that
All nonhuman beings possess sentience.
Sentience is “the necessary and sufficient condition for the possession of rights.”
Thus, nonhuman beings must possess rights.

[W]hile we do not protect humans from all suffering, we prohibit inflicting suffering on humans incidental to using them merely as the resources of others. We accord everyone, irrespective of his or her particular characteristics, a basic right not to be treated as the property of others. We regard human slavery—even “*humane*” slavery—as unacceptable. *Id at 145.*

Nonhuman beings, like human beings, have an interest in their continued existence.

To the extent that nonhumans have an interest in their lives, our use of them in situations where we would use no humans necessarily denies them equal consideration for this interest. *Ibid.*

There is no non-speciesist [nondiscriminatory] reason not to recognize that full membership in the moral community requires that we reject the slavery of nonhumans just as we rejected the slavery of humans. *Ibid.*

Legal recognition of sentience, *ie*, the ability to feel (*explained below*), and personhood of nonhuman beings is on the rise throughout the world. As of 2020, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, New Zealand and Tanzania have explicitly recognized animal sentience in federal laws. Additionally, great progress has occurred in the United States and Pakistan, mostly due to the brilliance and passion of Professor and Super Lawyer Steven M. Wise, Founder and President of The Nonhuman Rights Project, and support from the infamous Harvard Law Professor and Constitutional Scholar, Laurence Tribe.

Right click on the link below and select “Open Hyperlink” from drop down menu that appears.
<https://www.nonhumanrights.org/blog/laurence-tribe-supports-elephant-rights-case/>

May 21, 2020 marks an incredible victory in the nonhuman liberation movement, and should certainly be recognized as an international holiday.

On May 21, 2020, the Islamabad High Court of Pakistan **affirmed the rights of nonhuman beings and ordered the release of Kaavan** (an Asian elephant held in solitary confinement at the Marghazar Zoo) to a sanctuary.

Chief Justice Athar Minallah stated that the global pandemic served as “an opportunity for humans to introspect and relate to the pain and distress suffered by other living beings” caused by the “arrogance” of human beings. Chief Justice Minallah stated that “zoos do not serve any purpose except to display their living inmates as exhibits to visitors.”

Chief Justice Minallah cited New York State Justice Alison Tuitt’s February 2020 decision in Happy the elephant’s case [on appeal by the Nonhuman Rights Project (NhRP)], Professor Steven M. Wise, Esq., Founder and President of NhRP and counsel for Plaintiff Happy the elephant): “[Happy] is more than just a legal thing, or property. She is an intelligent, autonomous being who should be treated with respect and dignity, and who may be entitled to liberty.”

The Islamabad High Court is the second court outside the United States to cite Justice Tuitt’s February 2020 ruling, and the latest court to cite the New York Court of Appeals Judge Eugene Fahey’s rejection of chimpanzees’ legal “thinghood” in Nonhuman Rights Project’s chimpanzee rights cases of clients, Tommy, Kiko, Leo and Hercules.

On March 21, 2018, New York, US, Chimpanzees Hercules and Leo ACHIEVED FREEDOM with the support and legal prowess of their attorney, Nonhuman Rights Project Founder and President, Professor Steven M. Wise, Esq. Hercules and Leo are celebrating their fifth year at Project Chimps sanctuary in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Georgia thanks to Professor and Nonhuman Rights Project Founder and President Steven M. Wise, Esq. “I’m very happy to see them leaving a research facility,” exclaimed NhRP President Steven M. Wise in 2018. “I wish every primate could.”

Hercules and Leo have adjusted well in their forever home. Hercules protects young Kivuli during group conflicts and loves giant stuffed animals. Leo enjoys playing with the younger males in his group and loves peanut butter.

I remain elated that Dr. Jane Goodall is still alive to celebrate this incredible Victory! Happy awaits her forever home. Here is her story:
Right click on the link below and select “Open Hyperlink” from drop down menu that appears.
<https://lnkd.in/eHKtHXRX>

THE TIME IS RIPE FOR WORLD WIDE ACTION.

Professor Francione argues that
All nonhuman beings possess sentience.
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Thus, nonhuman beings must possess rights.

**A Central Nervous System Causes or Creates Sentience Which Serves as
The Necessary and Sufficient Condition for the Possession of Rights
and Full Membership in the Moral Community**

All living beings possess central nervous systems.
Central nervous systems cause or create the “ability to feel” or “sentience.”
Nonhuman beings are living beings.
Therefore, nonhuman beings possess sentience or the ability to feel.

In 1975, World Renowned Professor Peter Singer, brilliantly and logically proved that nonhuman beings possess sentience in his infamous work entitled Animal Liberation in which he explained that if a living being suffers, there can be no moral justification for refusing to take that suffering into consideration. Professor Singer explains that if sentient human beings feel pain, then sentient nonhuman beings do also because both species possess nervous systems. *Peter Singer, Animal Liberation, The Definitive Classic of the Animal Movement (New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2009) 11, 14. See also Jane Goodall, Through a Window, My Thirty Years with the Chimpanzees of Gombe (New York: Soko Publications Limited, 1990) xi and Tom L. Beauchamp, et al., The Human Use of Animals, Case Studies in Ethical Choice (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008) 13.*

All animals (both human and nonhuman) feel both positive and negative emotions such as happiness, excitement, love, joy, peace, pain, depression, fear and terror. In stark contrast, plants respond to external stimuli, but do not *feel* anything because plants do not possess central nervous systems.

In order to understand the intrinsic meaning of sentience, observe your pets. Do you know when they feel happy, excited, sad or afraid? Do they understand when you are happy, excited, sad or afraid? Can they sympathize with you? Do you believe they feel physical and emotional pain? What do you think they would do if someone tried to harm or kill them?

“The soul is the same in all living creatures, although the body of each is different.”
Hippocrates

***“Of all the creatures, man is the most detestable.
Of the entire brood, he's the one that possesses malice.
He is the only creature that inflicts pain for sport, knowing it to be pain.
The fact that man knows right from wrong
proves his intellectual superiority to other creatures;
but the fact that he can do wrong
proves his moral inferiority to any creature that cannot.”***
Mark Twain

There exists no logical argument against nonhuman rights.
See pages 18-82 of the following ebook by right clicking on the link below and selecting “Open Hyperlink” from drop down menu that appears.
<https://www.newhopenow.net/eye-opening-book/>

Religion remains a particularly sensitive issue that creates the most intense cognitive dissonance within human beings.

Christians’ favorite argument remains, “In the Bible, God said that He created animals for humans to eat.”

Jesus spoke Aramaic, and the Old Testament was written in Hebrew and Aramaic. The New Testament was written in Greek. Both Testaments were translated to Latin and then to English. Most people never studied Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek and Latin, and languages do not translate perfectly.

In order to determine Jesus's intention, one must look to the scholars. In Genesis 1:26, the Bible states that God gave humans "dominion over creatures." Many Hebrew scholars believe the word "dominion" is a very poor translation of the original Hebrew word "v'yirdu" which actually meant "to rule over" as a wise king rules over his subjects with CARE and RESPECT. It implied a sense of RESPONSIBILITY and ENLIGHTENED STEWARDSHIP.

What about The Golden Rule?

What is the difference between nonhuman beings we call “pets” who, if human beings mistreat, the humans go to jail versus nonhuman beings we call “food”?

“Speciesism” like the government created term “racism” (which according to forensic biology does not exist because there is no “race” gene) is pure discrimination.

THE TIME IS RIPE for species to join the other protected classes of “race,” color, religion, gender, national origin, pregnancy, age, veteran status, disability and sexual orientation.

Pigs possess the intellectual intelligence of three year old human beings, yet human beings would not roast human three year old children.

Cows and chickens are just as lovable as dogs and cats. Many human beings enjoy the company of cows and chickens, and consider them pets.

A Lion Called Christian, 1971, is a wonderful, almost serendipitous **true story** of two friends from Australia who purchased a lion cub from Harrod's Department Store in London in 1969, and about a year later returned him to the wild in Africa.

Born Free is the true-life story of an orphaned lion cub named Elsa who was raised by Joy and her game-warden husband in Kenya. After two years of training, Elsa moved into the wild. **The movie is based on a true story from a book by Joy Adamson.** The movie is set in the **1950s** when George Adamson served as the game warden for the Kenya area in Africa.

Even corporations enjoy the status of legal personhood.

Why are human children not considered personal property until they reach 18 years of age?

Why are nonhuman beings not considered subjects who require guardianship?

I invite you to ***open your minds and your hearts***, and peruse the following quick read by right clicking on the link below and selecting “Open Hyperlink” from drop down menu that appears.

<https://www.newhopenow.net/eye-opening-book/>

“How smart does a chimp have to be before killing him constitutes murder?”
Carl Sagan

Professor Wise created an ingenious legal strategy via *habeas corpus* to release Hercules and Leo, but he has not yet been able to rescue Tommy, Kiko and Happy.

There exist more than 80 billion (*per annum*) nonhuman beings (on land) who endure torture every day of their short, miserable lives in factory farms who also deserve release and rescue via Manifest Justice of the Law. (This statistic does not account for the nonhuman beings who endure torture and murder in the sea.)

Finally, we know that factory farming of nonhuman beings remains unnecessary, unhealthy and unnatural.

First, it proves unnecessary because plenty of MUCH HEALTHIER, viable alternatives for food, clothing and consumer products exist for human beings.

Second, it remains unhealthy because the Truth is unraveling that the consumption of nonhuman flesh, byproducts and secretions CAUSES lifestyle, degenerative diseases such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, autoimmune diseases; lifestyle chronic illnesses like digestive disorders, arthritis, obesity, acne, allergies; and lifestyle zoonotic origin global pandemics such as Covid. Like Covid, the Spanish bird flu of 1918 (*humanity's greatest killer as evidenced by its spreading throughout the US in a single month when between 50 and 100 million people lost their lives*) Ebola, HIV, SARS, BSE, *et al.*, ALL zoonotic origin global pandemics originate from humans' use and abuse of nonhumans. The next one is brewing in a factory farm near you right now.

Eighty percent of antibiotics are sold to factory farms to maintain the lives of sick, lifeless, dying, innocent sentient living beings until they are tortured and killed for human greed and gluttony (two of the seven mortal sins along with pride, envy, lust, sloth and wrath.) God's innocent creatures remain trapped in their own decrement which seeps into the soil and travels to fields and farms of crops through the water tables and contaminates vegetables and fruits with pathogens such as E. coli, bacteria such Salmonella, and parasites such as Cyclospora.

From environmental issues to degenerative diseases and chronic illnesses to ethics and morality; factory farming is destroying our only home, our planet, and ourselves.

***"The elimination of animal agriculture cannot solve the world's problems,
but the world's problems cannot be solved without the elimination of animal agriculture."
Earthling Ed***

Third, it is unnatural for three reasons: (1) human beings are anatomically herbivores (*with respect to digestive systems and teeth*); (2) humans remain the only species that is never weaned [*humans are naturally lactose intolerant because the purpose of cow's milk is for mothers to feed their babies (if humans are stealing it, what are the babies drinking?)*]; and (3) breeding into existence billions of innocent, nonhuman beings every single year only to enslave, torture and slaughter them for humans' sensory pleasure (greed and gluttony.) If God condones this, what could the Devil possibly do?

If we end the violence and suffering which occurs INSIDE slaughterhouses and under the auspices of the Law, then the consequential hatred and discrimination will also cease as we stop consuming nonhuman flesh, byproducts and secretions (and absorbing the fear and terror produced in the hormones of nonhuman beings directly before their executions.)

If you “love” animals, but you eat and use them, you do not love animals; you love pets.

Veganism means NO consumption, use or abuse of anybody who has parents or children or their byproducts or secretions...NO dairy, meat, eggs, fish, honey, Confectioner’s glaze, fur, wool, feathers, drugs and products that test on animals, etc. Veganism is based on Ethics and Morality, and it remains nonnegotiable.

Finally, like the Law of Gravity and the Laws of Physics, the Law of Karma exists whether or not we believe it...none of us can escape it. If we kill them, they will kill us... lifestyle, degenerative diseases such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, autoimmune diseases; lifestyle chronic illnesses like digestive disorders, arthritis, obesity, acne, allergies; and lifestyle zoonotic origin global pandemics such as Covid, Spanish bird flu of 1918, Ebola, HIV, SARS, BSE, *et al.*

***“As long as men kill animals, they will kill each other.
He who propagates the seed of murder and pain can never reap joy and love.”
Pythagoras***

***“Would this habit of eating animals not require that
we slaughter animals that we knew as individuals,
and in whose eyes we could gaze and see ourselves reflected,
only a few hours before our meal?”
Socrates***

***“The thought of meat as a luxury that would lead to an unsustainable society,
filled with strife and inequality, requiring more land and wars to acquire it.”
Plato***

***“He who is kind to animals, heaven will protect.
And so, with a boundless heart should one cherish all living beings.
Harm no other beings. They are just your brothers and sisters.”
Buddha***

***“May all that have life be delivered from suffering.”
Buddha***

***“All beings tremble before violence. All fear death. All love life.”
Buddha***

*“It is more important to prevent animal suffering,
rather than sit to contemplate the evils of the universe praying in the company of priests.”
Buddha*

*“When a man has pity on all living creatures, then only is he noble.”
Buddha*

*“If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures
from the shelter of compassion and pity,
you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.”
Saint Francis of Assisi*

*“Nature appears to have been the cruel stepmother
rather than the mother of many animals,”
Leonardo da Vinci*

*“Truly man is the king of beasts, for his brutality exceeds them.
We live by the death of others. We are burial places.
King of the animals—as thou hast described him—
I should rather say king of the beasts, thou being the greatest—
because thou hast spared slaying them, in order that they may
give thee their children for the benefit of the gullet,
of which thou hast attempted to make a sepulchre
for all animals; and I would say still more,
if it were allowed me to speak the entire truth.”
Leonardo da Vinci*

*“My refusing to eat meat occasioned inconveniency,
and I have been frequently chided for my singularity.
But, my light repast allows for greater progress,
for greater clearness of head and quicker comprehension.”
Benjamin Franklin*

*“If [man] is not to stifle his human feelings,
he must practice kindness towards animals,
for he who is cruel to animals becomes hard also in his dealings with men.
We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals.”
Immanuel Kant*

*“The love for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man.”
Charles Darwin*

*“Non-violence leads to the highest ethics, which is the goal of all evolution.
Until we stop harming all other living beings, we are still savages.”
Thomas Edison*

*“Animals are my friends—and I don’t eat my friends.”
George Bernard Shaw*

*“My religion is based on truth and nonviolence.
Truth is my God. Nonviolence is the means of realizing Him.”
Gandhi*

*“Unlike the animal, God has given man the faculty of reason.
Ethically they had arrived at the conclusion that man’s supremacy over lower animals
meant not that the former should prey upon the latter,
but that the higher should protect the lower,
and that there should be mutual aid between the two as between man and man.
They had also brought out the truth that man eats not for enjoyment but to live.”
Gandhi*

*“In my mind, the life of a lamb is no less precious than that of a human being.
The more helpless the creature, the more it is entitled to protection by man
from the cruelty of man.”
Gandhi*

*“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress
can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”
Gandhi*

*“When I see a cow, it is not an animal to eat,
it is a poem of pity for me and I worship it and I shall
defend its worship against the whole world.”
Gandhi*

*“Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.”
Gandhi*

*“Taken on the whole,
I would believe that Gandhi’s views
were the most enlightened of all the political men of our time.”
Albert Einstein*

*“A clever man solves a problem. A wise man avoids it.”
Albert Einstein*

***"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food."
Hippocrates, Father of Medicine***

***"I gave my beauty and my youth to men.
I am going to give my wisdom and experience to animals"
Brigitte Bardot***

***"As Americans get more and more obese,
tens of millions of human beings in the world (including 15 million children)
die from malnutrition, infection and diarrhea."***

***Kathy Freston, New York Times bestselling Author
Quantum Wellness (London: Vermillion, 2009)
Veganist, Lose Weight, Get Healthy, Change the World
(New York: Weinstein Books, 2011)***

***"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.***

***"Only if we understand can we care.
Only if we care will we help.
Only if we help shall they be saved."
Dr. Jane Goodall***

***"If we do not do something to help these creatures,
we make a mockery of the whole concept of justice."
Dr. Jane Goodall***

*Proposed by Carol Mosca, Director of Legislative Affairs, New Hope Now 501c3
to all Honorable Members of the United Nations, US Congress and US State Legislatures
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