

# The Impact of "Factory Farming"



## Cruelty to animals...

**Today on factory farms, animals are treated like machines rather than sentient beings...**

Factory farmed animals are abused in just about every way imaginable. They are subjected to painful body mutilations without any anesthesia (horns, beaks, tails and genitalia are all cut off without anesthesia.) They live in such small cages that most animals cannot move or turn around. Animals on these farms also live in filth and feces, and are often next to dead, rotting bodies of animals that could not survive these abuses. All the animals are sent to violent slaughterhouses, where animals are killed in an assembly line fashion. Often, stunning procedures fail, and animals are dismembered, de-feathered or boiled while still fully conscious.

## Environmental Destruction...

**Factory farming causes more water pollution in the United States than all other industries combined...**

Factory farms contain more animals than most cities and towns have humans--yet these farms have no sewage treatment facilities. Where does this waste go? Every year, factory farms dump 220 billion gallons of animal waste onto farmland and into our waterways. They are by far the number one polluter of water in our nation.

Factory farming is a primary cause of deforestation around the world. For each acre of American forest that is cleared to make room for parking lots, roads, houses, and shopping malls, seven acres of forest are converted into land for grazing livestock and/or growing livestock feed. Two-thirds of the rain forests of Central America have been cleared, in part to raise cattle whose flesh is exported to profit the U.S. food industry. Raising animals for food also consumes more than one-third of all raw materials and fossil fuels used in the United States.



## Danger to human health...

**Animals are fed antibiotics every day so they do not die in bacteria ridden factory farms...**



The large quantities of antibiotics used on factory farms can create drug resistant bacteria, which poses a grave threat to human health. Factory farms often also spill growth stimulants and massive quantities of excrement (waste items of the industry) into local waterways, and contaminate the water supply. Factory farms also pollute our air with harmful gases including ammonium nitrate, hydrogen sulfide, endotoxins, methane and other volatile compounds.