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Animal Agriculture and Climate Change

We portray society as a rich garden with a diverse amount of opportunity, yet we deprive certain individuals of their most basic right. The right to breathe. It makes no sense to love animals, and eat them. Of course, no person wants to overthink what they are eating, or where it came from, but questions such as these are what help us grow as people, as a species. There is no denying that animal flesh, when eaten, provides nutrients and a sense of fulfillment to the human body. There is also no denying that an entire life was taken for at most an hour of pleasure.

My biggest concern for the future of the planet is that people will fail to keep an open mindset when learning about the benefits of living a cruelty-free lifestyle, and will dismiss any information that makes them feel bad about themselves. It seems that nowadays people will do whatever brings them joy in life, which includes eating whatever they want. I completely agree with living a free-spirited life, but it is a matter of developing a blinded security that is supported with false and comforting self-affirmations, or a blanket of ignorance.

According to hsi.org (*Animal Agriculture and Climate Change*), “ By 2030, the livestock sector is projected to account for almost half of the world’s emissions budget for 1.5C unless things change.” This quotation is significant because 2030 is nearly 7 years away, and the environment

is being heavily impacted by the way that humans have decided to go about the animal agriculture industry. This also shows that not only are lives being ended, but the effect animal agriculture has on this planet is substantial, and should not be seen in disregard. The time to act is now, and that fact will not be ignored by the unwillingness to accept the actuality of the climate's situation.

As crucial members of our community, it is our duty to spread awareness to those who might not have access to this vital information. The reality of the situation is that the planet is not going to change unless we do something about it. As Barack Obama once said, "Climate change is no longer some far-off problem; it is happening here, it is happening now," and I am hopeful that enough people will recognize that their individual contributions will leave a significant impact on our planet's future.