Becoming the Demon: Animal Activism and the Problem of Violence

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Introduction
Chronology of Violence

- Goals vary by group
  - A common goal: Ensure the freedom and well-being of animals.
Chronology of Violence

Groups

- Animal Liberation Front
- Animal Rights Militia
- The Justice Department
- Revolutionary Cells of the Animal Liberation Brigade
More Recent Events

Christopher Hall

- Activists exhumed and stole the corpse of Hall’s mother-in-law in October of 2004
Discussion Question

- Do such acts really encourage animal welfare, or merely represent an ethical double standard?
The PETA Problem

- Saving Animals by Killing Them?
Counterproductive Consequences

- Violence Turns Activists into a Target
  - Police
  - The Law
  - The Public
Conclusion

- Violence creates a vicious circle that can be detrimental to the cause.

Violence against animals.

Offers no lasting solution

Violent acts to stop violence.
The Animal Rights Legacy

Some people think the best way to protect animal life is to make scientists fear for theirs.

Violent crime committed in the name of “animal rights” threatens life-saving medical research. These acts of domestic terrorism divert millions of research dollars into rebuilding labs, adding security and protecting scientists and their families. Tragically, the ultimate price is paid by the sick and dying waiting for a cure. www.ffaresearch.org
The Animal Rights Legacy
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