

Model Student
Factory Farms in America
492 words
Eng 1102 TR 9:30-10:45AM
Dr. Doug Davis

I know I am far from alone when I say that I consider myself a lover of animals. It is very rare that people would consider themselves anything but. There are many advocates against animal abuse that unknowingly contribute to one of the most abusive industries out there; the animal agriculture business, also known as factory farming. Factory farms typically raise pigs, cows, chickens and turkeys at an alarming rate in order to produce the most milk, meat and eggs at the fastest and lowest cost possible. This causes extremely confined and uncomfortable living situations for the animals, which can ultimately lead to the spread of disease and results in harsh effects on the environment. I do consider myself an animal lover, and I hope to be able to educate people on the effects of factory farming, and what they are ultimately contributing to by consuming animal products.

This is almost a difficult topic for me to say what I do and do not know about factory farms. That is my goal of this paper, to teach other people what I do know, and to also become more informed on the topic myself. I would like to find more studies done in other parts of the world on the health regulations in factory farms, and the overall animal consumption throughout different countries and how it differs here in the US. I would like to find more complex studies done to show the health benefits of not consuming animal products. I can say I do not know the future effects that the animal agriculture business holds on society's health and the environment if it continues to be such a thriving business, but it is definitely something I would like to research.

Ultimately my goal of this paper is to persuade my reader into thinking about his or her lifestyle choices and refusing to support industries that thrive on animal abuse. What are the overall health/environment benefits of not consuming animal products? Is there really such a thing as a 'humane' slaughterhouse? What kind of effects does the animal agriculture business have on our overall health as well as the environment? Why do the majority of people deem farm animals as being less important than 'pets', and will we ever get past that outlook? These are just a few questions that will be the guide to my overall research project. Being an animal rights advocate and vegan myself, I have had many debates over this controversial subject. I am aware that there are many people that do not understand why I care, or they believe that my lifestyle is 'pointless'. I do not want to come off as pretentious in my research paper, I want to inform and persuade people to take a more in-depth look on the choices they make and the lasting effect it can have on our society.

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Killers on the Big Screen

727 Words

1102 9:30

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The topic of my research essay will be centered on the cultural appeal of serial killers. Serial killers are a growing concern globally as more television shows glorify the violent acts of terror. Technology is evolving everyday giving a killer more access sophisticated methods of causing death. The concept of the serial killer intrigues me for many reasons. In the very near future, I hope to become a psychiatric nurse where on a daily basis I will come into contact with psychopaths and sociopaths. I do not know where the root of my fascination with people who are filled with hatred came from because I grew up in a very warm, nurturing household that was full of compassion. In many ways I feel as though without compassion, serial killers are somewhat inhuman, almost like an alien. Nevertheless, I am not alone in my intrigue for serial killers as many people around the world devote their lives to studying everything about serial killers from all ages.

I have previous done research on serial killers from a psychological perspective, so I have a fairly large knowledge base of the general behavioral patterns, methodologies, and backgrounds of more modern killers. I know that it is more common for a serial killer to be a social and outgoing, seemingly normal person than the drawn in “weird man” that never comes out of his house, unlike the majority of society believes. However, it is true that a serial killer is

more apt to be a man than a woman. I know that killers are typically abused as a child or are around abuse. One infamous killer had a very healthy relationship with his father, but he watched him beat his mother on a daily basis. Another's father made him shoot a box of puppies until it was nothing but bits and pieces before he ever reached the age of ten. The stereotypical sexually motivated killings are extremely common, but are not the only motivation behind serial murders. Killers who have an issue with masculinity or an obsession with male dominance are typically very ruthless and brutal in their killings and tend to be more "hands on." Other killers use more execution-style methods or other torturous ways to kill. Though I have a large general knowledge of serial killers from a psychological standpoint, there are still many things I do not know.

I have never taken a look at the serial killer from a cultural perspective. I have never studied the history of a serial killer or how they have evolved to the clever, intelligent people they are today. I do not know how modern technologies have influenced the behavior and methodologies of serial killers. I cannot imagine why the general public has not become fearful of the rising number of killers around the world. I also do not know why there is a universal fascination with such unhuman creatures. I am unaware of what the killers think about the large amount of publicity they receive and how that influences their behavior. There are many things that I do not know about serial killers culturally, but the things I do not know will motivate me to gain more knowledge through research.

Due to the fact that I am more interested in the psychological aspect of a serial killer, thinking of questions to guide me in my research has not been easy. I am sure that I want to know how television has effected both the killers and the general public. Have the killers enjoyed the publicity and glorification of their acts or would they rather keep the intimate details to

themselves to remain unique? I would also like to know how modern technology has changed the way killers operate. Has DNA evidence made the majority of serial killers more meticulous? How have new technologies influenced the way killers kill? Are there still “old fashioned” killers out there? I am curious to find out why the fear of a spider is more widespread than that of a serial killer. Why is the general public not aware of how common the killers are and is that why they are not more cautious to protect themselves? My biggest question of all will be what makes serial killers so appealing to the public.