

What reason do we have for treating animals differently i.e. eating them?

- In order to treat something differently we need a legitimate reason. E.g. we don't give children the vote because we believe that they are not capable of making rational choices.
- To treat somebody differently because of no legitimate reason, e.g. race, is to unfairly discriminate – in this case “racism”. We see this as immoral. We are treating somebody differently without good reason to.
- By killing and eating animals we are treating them very differently. Is there a legitimate reason for doing so? If not, then aren't we guilty of speciesism?

Arguments against eating meat?

- Sentience: “can they suffer?” The overall amount of suffering in the world would reduce if people stopped eating meat.
- Value of life. Isn't life valuable?
- “Windows on the world”? Each being has a unique perspective on the world. These perspectives have intrinsic value.