

The Myth of the Meat-Eating Environmentalist

BY RUTH COOK

An environmentalist cannot eat meat. I am sure many of my meat eating friends who delude themselves into thinking they are environmentalists would take great offense at such a statement; however, the statement remains fact. This article is the first in a series which will prove the implausibility of a meat-eating environmentalist. They will examine the conflicts between being an environmentalist and the effects of the livestock industry on the environment.

Before I can set out to prove this fact, an agreeable definition of environmentalist must be formulated. In the roughest form, an environmentalist is a person who is concerned about the environment. This definition is too broad. A person may be concerned about the environment, but if s/he is only changing the environment only to gain the greatest short term, monetary profit, they are not an environmentalist. Such a person is the antithesis of an environmentalist, and yet under the current definition such a person would indeed be an environmentalist. Thus, I offer the first revision of the definition.

An environmentalist is a person who is concerned about the positive welfare of and the negative effects of human activity of the environment. (Basically, this means the person believes destruction of the environment is wrong and environments in their true, natural sense need to be protected.)

However, even this new revision is still too broad. This time the problem is the verb, concerned. A person can say s/he is concerned about variable X, (example: racism, sexism, homophobia), but unless s/he

takes an active stance (active being an action or omission of an action, such as boycotting, but not an apathetic action) to protect the interests of the victimized, and protects these interests as much as feasibly possible s/he is no better than the attacker. As x is a variable, x includes the positive welfare of and the negative effects of human activity on the environment. Thus I propose the final revision of the definition of an environmentalist.

An environmentalist is a person who is not merely philosophically but actively concerned about the positive welfare of and the negative effects of human activity on the environment, and acts upon these concerns as much as feasibility possible.

As explained above, an action of concern includes boycotting. Through the following articles in this series I will prove why an environmentalist must boycott the meat industry, on the basis of the meat industry's environmental destruction.

While an environmentalist cannot eat meat, I do not wish this series to cause a reversion to total callousness of those participants of the meat industry who have some sense of environmental awareness. Such people are fetus environmentalists. To be a live environmentalist, one must not be merely philosophically but actively concerned about the positive welfare of and the negative effects of human activity on the environment and must act upon these concerns as much as feasibly possible.

The next article will show the connection between pesticide use and the environmentalist's need to be a vegetarian.

SACS (continued from page 1.)

What are we, as students, supposed to do? Well, we could always continue with the norm and hope for the best. Despite our current predicament, the future of the institution looks hopeful.

President Board suggested a more hands-on approach. We help out with the recruiting process. No, don't go screaming down to admissions for view books and applications. Simply, if you're having a good time at St. Andrews, spread the word beyond the immediate community. "Invite other students to come and visit," said Board. Make a good impression on those students who do come to visit.

Nothing is more frightening than being a prospective student. Equally, nothing makes a better impact on a prospective student than an honest, enjoyable experience while on campus.

The stability of the college does not simply rely on the works of the admissions office and development. Students create the image for St. Andrews. We mar or polish it by our actions. We can take an active role in deciding the future of the college.

"The reality of college is that it is a business," Board concluded, "we can't be other things without it." Until January, we'll keep our fingers crossed.

Medieval Mummery

The Highland Players present "Medieval Mummery." This weekend only!
November 3 at 8 p.m.,
November 4 and 5 at 3 p.m.

From
President Board:
**No
rollerblades
are allowed
in the LA
building!**

(Indoor Skating presents a danger to pedestrians and creates marks on the floors which cause additional maintenance expense.)

Chapbook Rules

The following is the official rules and regulations for the Bunn-McClelland Chapbook contest. Look for further information concerning deadlines.

1. All entries must have a title.
2. Entries for poetry must be 20-pages, single spaced. Prose entries should be between 30 and 50 pages, double spaced. Any mixture of the two that falls between those page limits is fine.
3. Your full name and campus address must be on the title page.
4. Submission pages must be numbered and your name should appear in the right-hand corner of each page.

Submit your letters to the
Lance...