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Concepts

Animals as Sentient beings

- Sentience is 'being able to experience feelings'
- Feelings can be positive (e.g. happy) or negative (e.g. pain)

Questions:

- How do we know if animals can experience feelings?
- Does our use of animals affect their ability to experience feelings?

The concept of animal welfare includes...

Biological functioning

Emotional state

Ability to express normal behaviours



Fraser et al., 1997





How do we know if animals can experience feelings?

Behavioural observation

- frequency or duration of behaviours can be measured
- behavioural expression



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Physiological indicators

- measurements of hormonal indicators of stress
- changes in heart rate or blood pressure



Photo by Stefan Schweihofer, CC0



Does our use of animals affect their ability to experience feelings?



"Cutie Our Pet Rat" by audreyim529, CC BY



Photo by Tibor Janosi Mozes, CC0



Photo by Wolfgang Vogt, CC0





Mythbusting

- Our main farmed species –
 evidence that they are sentient
- Their biology doesn't change because we have chosen to use animals in different ways
- Therefore we do have a duty of care for the welfare of animals farmed for food





Thank you for listening

• If you want to find out how many animals are produced for food in different parts of the world you can find data <u>here</u>.

 Just change the 'Item' to different species













Thank you

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