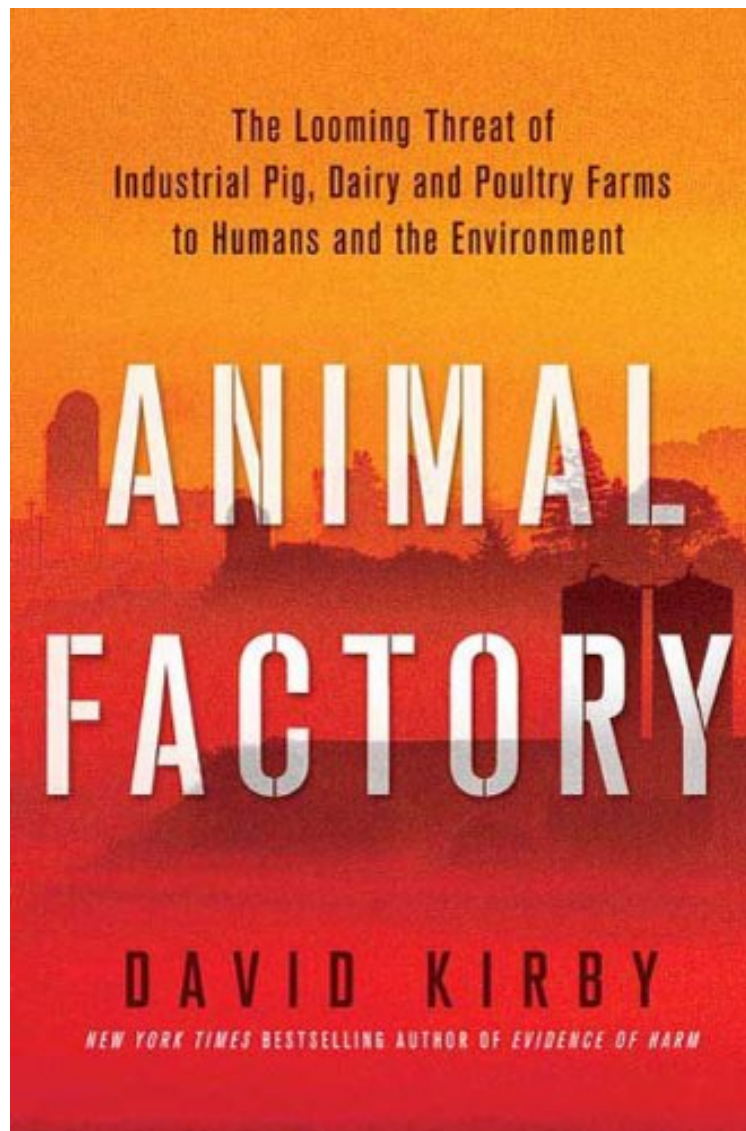


(Free) Animal Factory: The Looming Threat of Industrial Pig, Dairy, and Poultry Farms to Humans and the Environment

## **Animal Factory: The Looming Threat of Industrial Pig, Dairy, and Poultry Farms to Humans and the Environment**

*David Kirby*

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**David Kirby : Animal Factory: The Looming Threat of Industrial Pig, Dairy, and Poultry Farms to Humans and the Environment** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Animal Factory: The Looming Threat of Industrial Pig, Dairy, and Poultry Farms to Humans and the Environment:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. AN EXCELLENT RECENT CRITIQUE OF FACTORY FARMS AND CAFOsBy Steven H ProppDavid Kirby is a journalist who also wrote Evidence of Harm: Mercury in Vaccines

and the Autism Epidemic: A Medical Controversy and Death at SeaWorld: Shamu and the Dark Side of Killer Whales in Captivity. He wrote in the Introduction to this 2010 book, "'Animal Factory' is not strictly an anti-CAFO [Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations] book... I do not call for an end to industrial animal production... I would never dream of telling people what to eat, or, more importantly, what NOT to eat. But we all have a responsibility, even an ethical obligation, to know where our food comes from, and what impacts its production has on the environment and public health... I am not a vegetarian, and you will occasionally find me in line for fast food, so I have no business telling others how to eat." (Pg. xvi-xvii) He writes of an area around a factory hog farm, "even when CAFOs were not stinking, the hog smell persists. It can literally adhere to homes. Shingles, siding, and other materials absorb and trap odors during the night, off-gassing them in the sunlight of day. In people, fatty tissues act in much the same way." (Pg. 90) He observes that "In the closing years of the twentieth century... factory-farm activists soberly realized that they were in this fight for the long haul... The work was grueling, time-consuming, and expensive. The opposition was well funded and well organized. But retreat was not an option... these groups were beginning to come to terms with an unsettling realization: Nobody was going to make factory farms disappear altogether. Reform them, yes. Promote smaller independent farms, of course. But the CAFOs could not be legislated, litigated, or even shamed into obsolescence... by forcing reforms and reducing the risk to public health... the more they were helping to sustain the entire corporate food system. Were activists unwittingly reforming CAFOs into perpetuity?" (Pg. 213) Later, he adds, "By 2006, the animal-factory wars were raging, having spread from rural communities to state courthouses and now all the way to Capitol Hill. The tactics were fiery, and the rhetoric simplistic, as each side agitated to smear its opponents. Anti-CAFO forces portrayed industrial livestock leaders as part of an immense network of greed, without regard for health and the environment. Agribusiness was ramping up its counterattack that naysayers were anti-farming, overemotional, irrational, and a threat to economic development, affordable food, and national security." (Pg. 325) This very informative book will be of great interest to persons concerned with animal rights/welfare, as well as vegetarians/vegans, and other progressives.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The meat in our markets is cheap for a reason  
By James A. Penny  
Some 20 years ago, I visited a farrowing house to see how hog farming had changed since the time I lived on the farm. The sights stuck with me, and through this book, I came to realize that I wasn't just reacting to the idiot who owned the particular site I visited. No, I was reacting to an impending crisis, the shadows of which we see now. It'll be a long while before I subsidize animal husbandry of this ilk. The meat in our (US) markets might be some of the cheapest (at check-out) in the world, but there is an unseen price for that bargain, and we will all chip in to pay that tab one day all too soon.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.  
Fascinating Look Inside the Meat Industry  
By sakura\_yuna  
I read the first few pages and already it is a very good solid read, for anyone that wants to know what goes on in our meat industry. Really chilling and shocking to know what the government lets through to consumers. I will need to be even more careful now about how I go about buying my meat. Thank you David Kirby for shedding light on this controversial topic that no one really wants to talk about much. Very recommended read!

Swine flu. Bird flu. Unusual concentrations of cancer and other diseases. Massive fish kills from flesh-eating parasites. Recalls of meats, vegetables, and fruits because of deadly E-coli bacterial contamination. Recent public health crises raise urgent questions about how our animal-derived food is raised and brought to market. In *Animal Factory*, bestselling investigative journalist David Kirby exposes the powerful business and political interests behind large-scale factory farms, and tracks the far-reaching fallout that contaminates our air, land, water, and food. In this thoroughly researched book, Kirby follows three families and communities whose lives are utterly changed by immense neighboring animal farms. These farms (known as "Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations," or CAFOs), confine thousands of pigs, dairy cattle, and poultry in small spaces, often under horrifying conditions, and generate enormous volumes of fecal and biological waste as well as other toxins. Weaving science, politics, law, big business, and everyday life, Kirby accompanies these families in their struggles against animal factories. A North Carolina fisherman takes on pig farms upstream to preserve his river, his family's life, and his home. A mother in a small Illinois town pushes back against an outsized dairy farm and its devastating impact. And a Washington State grandmother becomes an unlikely activist when her home is invaded by foul odors and her water supply is compromised by runoff from leaking lagoons of cattle waste. *Animal Factory* is an important book about our American food system gone terribly wrong---and the people who are fighting to restore sustainable farming practices and save our limited natural resources.