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Cows and Chicks:

An Ecofeminist Pragmatist Perspective on Livestock

Undergraduate Talk with Erin McKenna
Professor of Philosophy

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2016 | 3:00 P.M.

LIVING-LEARNING CENTER SOUTH

1455 E. 15TH AVENUE

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON CAMPUS

FREE ADMISSION - SEATING IS LIMITED

For much of humans' agricultural history, milking cows and raising chickens was considered women's work. Further, milk and eggs are the "products" of female animal beings. For some ecofeminists this creates a special connection and a special obligation not to partake of these agricultural products. Since the 1950s cows and chickens have been transformed into industrial animals and women have been replaced with automated industrial systems. This has allowed for further objectification of the animal beings and increased consumption of them. In the case of cows and chickens, they are often presented as sexualized females, and human women are sexually objectified in advertisements promoting their consumption. An ecofeminist/pragmatist perspective will be used to examine the history and consequences of this intertwining of the lives and deaths of women, cows, and chickens.



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