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# Is Sociology Ready to Take Animals Seriously Now?



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Since it began to gather momentum at the turn of the study of animals and society has struggled for legitimacy, sociology programs are beginning to provide courses, they remain sparse and elective. Academics and graduate school, my own advisor suggested that I downplay myself as a social movement scholar. Publishing is no less remotely related to animals is subject to redirection by editors.

*Animals*, arguably the journalistic ghetto for animal scholars sociology would realistically ever come across our research.

The devaluation of our work frankly boggles my mind. The c by the day with each record-breaking temperature, each me species lost to extinction. This is a crisis brought on, to an er agriculture via the heavy production and utilization of oil, so water, land, transportation, and other resources necessary t and other animal products. Researchers are also pointing to environment as the reason for shrinking wild spaces and sul between humans and free-living nonhuman communities. A other zoonotic diseases have demonstrated, humanity's opp other animals is not only dangerous for non-humans, but fo (particularly vulnerable folks such as the very young, the eld those living with limited material means, etc.).

Perhaps the COVID-19 crisis will finally bring home the fact t deeply and consistently shaped by our relationships with oth has disrupted all that sociology holds dear, from major socia minor of social interactions. As such, sociologists cannot affc devaluing the nonhuman factor in human social life. At the p formidable, but as the global response to COVID-19 has indi happen fast when the impetus is there.

Governmental bodies will need to cease subsidizing animal a based industries, which are both unsustainable and inheren earth on which we all reside. Instead, agricultural agencies w begin transitioning farmers toward sustainable, plant-based practices which spread Western dietary practices, entrench a agriculture, and fan food insecurity must be challenged. Much has traditionally relied on plant-based consumption, a diet tl undermined by Western capitalist expansion. Now is the tim relationship to other animals and critically reassess our cons

For sociologists, we must begin to include non-humans in ou variables, but as sentient beings who, like ourselves, have a :

and future. At the very least, we can begin to lend support a  
of animals and society, as it will only grow more pressing in 1

## References

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