



Rattling The Cage: Toward Legal Rights For Animals

Steven M. Wise

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Rattling the Cage explains how the failure to recognize the basic legal rights of chimpanzees and bonobos in light of modern scientific findings creates a glaring contradiction in our law. In this witty, moving, persuasive, and impeccably researched argument, Wise demonstrates that the cognitive, emotional, and social capacities of these apes entitle them to freedom from imprisonment and abuse.

Rattling The Cage: Toward Legal Rights For Animals Details

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From Reader Review Rattling The Cage: Toward Legal Rights For Animals for online ebook

Morgan Djuna Sorais Harrigan says

This book is intensely real and very very important. Reading this made me want to get up and make a lot of change. I recommend this for any and all animal lovers. I also recommend this to anyone interested in justice and ethics.

Hope Ferdowsian says

Everyone should read this book.

Matthew says

"Rattling the Cage" should be required reading for law professors, law students, lawmakers, and anyone even remotely interested in living an ethical life. This book lays out a solid case for eliminating the legal and moral classification of non-human species as 'things' for no other reason than their membership in collective non-humanity. The author lays out the historical and theological roots of the Western view that non-human life does not matter in and of itself, and shows that these underpinnings gave rise to current morality and laws which treat non-humans as objects. Further, the author shows that the underlying theological and historical bases which once undergirded societal views on non-human animals have long been washed away by the steady march of biology, genetics, psychology, linguistics, and a whole host of other disciplines - leaving non-human animals in the difficult spot of being legal and moral 'things' when there are manifestly no valid reasons for thinking of them, or treating them, as objects rightfully used for our own enjoyment to their detriment. This no-man's-land in legal territory is begging for judges, attorneys, and lawmakers capable of reasoning the issue through to its deeper levels and rebuilding the wall between 'persons' and 'things' in the proper location.

In a following book, "Drawing the line," Professor Wise lays out what criteria he believes should be used to draw that line and where the line might end up being drawn. An influential and powerful book (particularly when paired with its follow-up book), "Rattling the Cage" is a piece of legal and moral reasoning that belongs in every legal and ethical professional's reading list.

Shirley says

Fascinating!

l. says

pop animal rights theory/law
