

Joseph Campbell

Mrs. Roy

Expository Reading and Writing: Per. 3

18 October 2010

Research Question: Are animal mercy killings ethical?

**Source 1:**

Rifkin, Jeremy. "A Change of Heart about Animals." Editorial. *Los Angeles Times*. 1 Sept.

2003: B15. *CommonDreams.org*. [Www.commondreams.org](http://www.commondreams.org). Web. 27 Dec. 2010.

<<http://www.commondreams.org/views03/0901-04.htm>>.

**Précis:**

In his article "A Change of Heart about Animals," author of *The Biotech Century* Jeremy Rifkin proposes that animals have emotions akin to humans. He supports his opinion by citing several examples of current studies that show animals experiencing human emotions and behaviors. Using a primarily logical approach, he hopes to convince the reader that because animals experience emotions as humans do, they should have similar rights. Rifkin writes in an intellectual tone for an audience of educated adults.

**Concrete Details:**

**1A:** "In Germany, the government is encouraging pig farmers to give each pig 20 seconds of human contact a day" (Rifkin 1).

**1B:** "Elephants will often stand next to their dead kin for days, occasionally touching their bodies with their trunks" (Rifkin 2).

**1C:** According to behavioral scientist Stephen M. Sivy, "If you believe in evolution by natural selection, how can you believe that feelings suddenly appeared, out of the blue, with human beings?" (qtd. in Rifkin 2-3).