

PETA and KFC

July 25, 2003

Dear Neighbor:

I am writing to let you know that People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) will soon be coming to your neighborhood and that I hope to have the opportunity to speak with you when we're there. I'd like to ask for your help in addressing the cruel treatment of animals who are raised in appalling conditions on factory farms and slaughtered in often painful and frightening ways.

You may be aware that your neighbor, Cheryl Bachelder, is the president of KFC. For more than two years, PETA has most politely tried to convince Ms. Bachelder and KFC to follow the science-based recommendations of their own animal-welfare advisory board in order to address some of the most flagrantly cruel abuses suffered by the 736 million birds raised and killed for KFC each year. Sadly, KFC steadfastly ignores these recommendations, which are amply supported by scientific studies. Ms. Bachelder has made it clear, both publicly and privately, that she just doesn't care about modernizing operations to stop the worst of abuses of these small, frightened birds.

What you might not know is that KFC's chickens—who feel pain and fear as acutely as any animal—are bred and drugged to grow so quickly that their legs often collapse under their artificially enhanced bulk, crippling them. They are crammed by the tens of thousands into sheds so thick with ammonia fumes from accumulated waste that workers' eyes burn as soon as they walk inside. The birds also routinely suffer broken bones from being grabbed by their legs and violently stuffed or thrown into crates or from being slammed into shackles upside-down at slaughterhouses. Many chickens are still conscious as their throats are slit and when they are dumped into tanks of scalding hot water to remove their feathers. The level of abuse is well beyond anything that you can easily imagine, and it would warrant felony prosecution in Kentucky if dogs or cats were abused in these ways.

We are not asking KFC to allow these animals to live outdoors, build nests, or raise their families, and we are not asking KFC to serve only vegetarian food—we are only asking KFC to adopt minimal reforms.

I would be happy to speak with you in person, while I am in your neighborhood, or by telephone, and I hope that you will support our efforts.



PETA

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

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AN INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION DEDICATED
TO PROTECTING
THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS

Please contact Jennifer Gentry at 757-622-7382 or via e-mail at JenniferG@peta.org if you wish to talk. We appreciate your assistance. Thank you.

Cordially,

Steven Jay Gross, Ph.D.
Consultant



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