

Reading Guide #14

Cohen, "The Case for the Use of Animals in Biomedical research"*

Regan, "The Case for Animal Rights"*

1. According to Cohen, rights are only held by members of a moral community. Explain this position. What qualifies someone to be a member of a moral community?

2. Explain the objection to Cohen's position based on the "brain-damaged, the comatose and the senile". How does Cohen respond to this objection?

3. What is speciesism according to Cohen? What is Cohen's response to the speciesism objection?

4. What is contractarianism, for Regan, and why does even its most sophisticated expressions fail?

5. How does a utilitarian view differ from Regan's view, the inherent value view? According to Regan, what feature or features of a creature makes it an appropriate candidate for having inherent value?