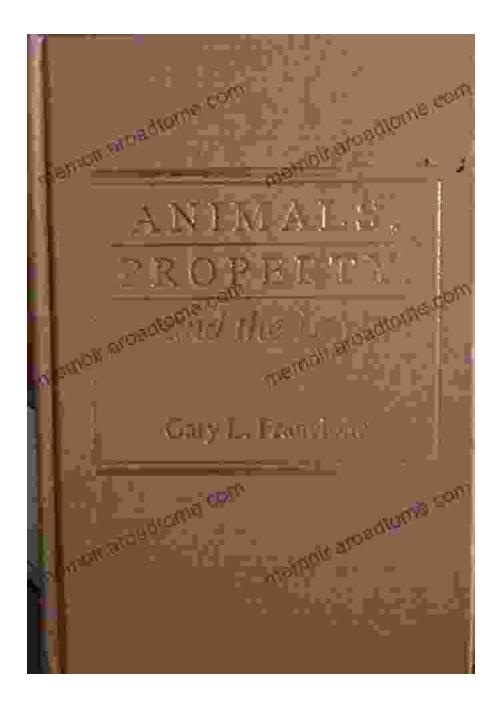
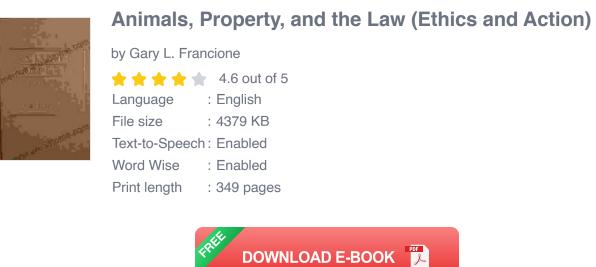
# Animals, Property, and the Law: Ethics and Action



Animals are sentient beings who deserve our compassion and respect. Yet, in many jurisdictions, animals are still considered to be property, which means that they can be bought, sold, and traded like any other commodity. This commodification of animals has led to a wide range of abuses, including factory farming, animal testing, and the fur trade.



The book *Animals, Property, and the Law: Ethics and Action* argues that the legal status of animals as property is fundamentally unjust and that it needs to be changed. The book explores the ethical arguments against the commodification of animals and proposes a new legal framework that would recognize animals as legal persons with rights.

#### The Ethical Arguments Against the Commodification of Animals

There are a number of ethical arguments against the commodification of animals. One argument is that animals are sentient beings who are capable of experiencing pain and suffering. As such, they deserve to be treated with respect and compassion, not as mere objects or commodities.

Another argument is that animals play an important role in the ecosystem. They help to pollinate plants, disperse seeds, and control pests. By commodifying animals, we are disrupting the delicate balance of nature. Finally, the commodification of animals is simply unfair. Animals are not our property. They are individuals with their own lives and interests. We have no right to exploit them for our own benefit.

### A New Legal Framework for Animals

The book *Animals, Property, and the Law: Ethics and Action* proposes a new legal framework that would recognize animals as legal persons with rights. This framework would give animals the right to life, liberty, and bodily autonomy. It would also prohibit the use of animals in factory farming, animal testing, and the fur trade.

This new legal framework would be a major step forward for animal protection. It would send a clear message that animals are not our property and that they deserve to be treated with respect and compassion.

## What You Can Do

There are a number of things you can do to help animals and promote the legal recognition of their rights. Here are a few ideas:

- Adopt an animal from a shelter.
- Buy cruelty-free products.
- Support organizations that are working to protect animals.
- Educate others about the ethical issues surrounding the commodification of animals.

By taking these actions, you can help to create a more just and compassionate world for animals.

# The book *Animals, Property, and the Law: Ethics and Action* is a powerful indictment of the commodification of animals. The book argues that the legal status of animals as property is fundamentally unjust and that it needs to be changed. The book proposes a new legal framework that would recognize animals as legal persons with rights. This framework would be a major step forward for animal protection and would send a clear message that animals are not our property and that they deserve to be treated with respect and compassion.

### Animals, Property, and the Law (Ethics and Action)



by Gary L. Francione

****		4.6 out of 5
Language	:	English
File size	:	4379 KB
Text-to-Speech	:	Enabled
Word Wise	:	Enabled
Print length	:	349 pages

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