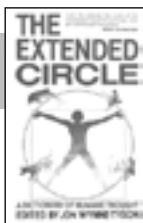


Wynne-Tyson, Jon. *The Extended Circle: A Dictionary of Humane Thought*.  
Extract from "Brigid Brophy".

## THE EXTENDED CIRCLE

Once we acknowledge life and sentiency in the other animals, we are bound to acknowledge what follows, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. (This is not to deny that we owe them, as to our fellow-humans, a duty to end their life when the pursuit of pleasure and the shunning of pain have become impossible for them. And we have the right or duty to limit their populations by contraceptives, as we must our own). That I like the flavour of mutton no more entitles me to kill a sheep than a taste for roast leg of human would entitle me to kill you. To argue that we humans are capable of complex, multifarious thought and feeling, whereas the sheep's experience is probably limited by lowly sheepish perceptions, is no more to the point than if I were to slaughter and eat you on the grounds that I am a sophisticated personality able to enjoy Mozart, formal logic and cannibalism, whereas your imaginative world seems confined to *True Romances* and tinned spaghetti. For the point is what your life and perceptions are worth to you, not me, and what the sheep's life and sheepish perceptions are worth to the sheep.

Brigid Brophy  
*Animals, Men and Morals*



Wynne-Tyson, Jon. *The Extended Circle: A Dictionary of Humane Thought*. Fontwell, Sussex: Centaur Press Limited. © 1986.  
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