



Unlikely allies against factory farms: animal rights advocates and environmentalists

Journal [Agriculture and Human Values](#)
Publisher Springer Netherlands
ISSN 0889-048X (Print) 1572-8366 (Online)
Issue [Volume 25, Number 2 / June, 2008](#)
DOI 10.1007/s10460-008-9122-4
Pages 169-171
Subject Collection [Humanities, Social Sciences and Law](#)
SpringerLink Date Thursday, January 24, 2008



[Add to marked items](#)
[Add to shopping cart](#)
[Add to saved items](#)
[Permissions & Reprints](#)
[Recommend this article](#)

[PDF \(109.0 KB\)](#) [HTML](#) [Free Preview](#)

Unlikely allies against factory farms: animal rights advocates and environmentalists

David M. Holt¹

(1) Food Safety Policy Center, Michigan State University, 429A Berkey Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824-1111, USA

Accepted: 10 December 2007 **Published online:** 24 January 2008

Abstract I examine the risks and opportunities associated with social movement coalition building in attempts to block or curtail the rise of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in the United States. As producers have scaled up animal production facilities, environmentalists and animal rights activists, along with numerous other social actors, have begun anti-CAFO campaigns. I argue that while the CAFO has mobilized a diverse group of social actors, these individuals and organizations do not all have the same interests (aside from resistance to CAFOs), leading to some unlikely allies. These odd alliances provide opportunities for agrifood scholars to study the relationship between the coalitions that social movement organizations form and the support they receive from their respective constituencies. Lastly, I argue that the need for agrifood scholars to address the pitfalls associated with single-issue coalition building extends beyond the unlikely alliance between environmentalists and animal rights activists, as agrifood related crises have led to a proliferation of such coalitions.