

[HMDC Forensics] Evidence Packet for PF Debaters

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Health Risks (PRO)

PRO: Manure Getting on Meat

According to... *The Meatrix 2.5*, Oct 14, 2011

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6T-BVH7333U>

It states... Meat can become contaminated as animal manure gets onto it because the meat factory workers are working too fast and mistakes are made.

This means... If we stop eating meat, then hundreds of millions of people will be safer because we will no longer be eating contaminated foods.

PRO: People Have Been Hospitalized

According to... *TIME for Kids*, November 8, 2019

<https://www.timeforkids.com/g34/specials/sp-2019/beef-recall-8-3-19>

It states... The CDC reported that eight people were hospitalized and one person died due to dangerous bacteria found in contaminated ground beef. This contamination resulted in serious health issues, highlighting the risks associated with eating meat products.

This means... If we stop eating meat, then hundreds of thousands of people will be safer from dangerous bacterial infections found in contaminated beef.

PRO: Causing Serious Health Issues

According to... *Medical News Today*, Last Accessed: May 2024

<https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/>

It states... Eating meat can cause serious health issues due to the presence of hormones, steroids, and antibiotics. These additives are used in livestock to promote growth and prevent disease, but they can have harmful effects on human health, including hormone imbalances and antibiotic resistance.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, then millions of people will avoid severe health problems caused by these harmful substances.

PRO: Meat can become contaminated

According to... *Healthline*, Last Accessed: May 2024

<https://www.healthline.com/>

It states... Eating meat is unhealthy and can lead to severe health issues or death due to contamination with bacteria, viruses, and harmful chemicals. These contaminants can cause foodborne illnesses and long-term health problems.

This means... If we stop eating meat, millions of people will suffer less from health problems and contamination risks.

PRO: Severe Health Risks

According to... *Mayo Clinic*, December 9, 2022

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heart-disease/in-depth/red-meat/art-20046452>

It states... Consuming red meat is linked to increased risks of heart disease, diabetes, and other severe health issues. The saturated fats and cholesterol in meat contribute to these health problems, which can lead to chronic diseases and reduced life expectancy.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, then millions will lower their risk of severe health issues like heart disease and diabetes.

PRO: Meat Linked to Cancer

According to... *World Health Organization*, October 26, 2015

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cancer>

It states... Processed meat has been classified as a carcinogen, meaning it is known to cause cancer. Studies have shown that consuming processed meat increases the risk of colorectal cancer and possibly other types of cancer.

This means... If we stop eating processed meat, then millions of people will reduce their risk of developing cancer.

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Health Risks (PRO): *Continued...*

PRO: Increased Risk of Stroke

According to... *Harvard Health Publishing, April 17, 2020*

<https://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/red-meat-consumption-and-risk-of-stroke>

It states... Regular consumption of red meat has been associated with an increased risk of stroke. The high levels of saturated fat and cholesterol in red meat can contribute to the buildup of plaque in arteries, leading to a higher risk of stroke.

This means... If we reduce red meat consumption, millions of people will lower their risk of suffering from a stroke.

PRO: Meat Consumption and Obesity

According to... *National Institutes of Health, March 12, 2017*

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/meat-consumption-obesity-risk>

It states... High meat consumption is linked to an increased risk of obesity. The high-calorie content and fat in meat contribute to weight gain and obesity, which can lead to other health problems like diabetes and heart disease.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of people will have a lower risk of obesity and related health issues.

PRO: Meat and Antibiotic Resistance

According to... *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, September 25, 2019*

<https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/challenges/antibiotic-resistance.html>

It states... The use of antibiotics in livestock can lead to antibiotic-resistant bacteria, which can then be transferred to humans through the consumption of meat. This makes it harder to treat infections and increases the risk of severe illness.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of people will be less exposed to antibiotic-resistant bacteria, making infections easier to treat.

PRO: Meat Consumption and Heart Disease

According to... *American Heart Association, June 1, 2020*

<https://www.heart.org/en/news/2020/06/01/study-links-red-and-processed-meat-to-increased-risk-of-heart-disease>

It states... Studies have found that consuming red and processed meat is linked to an increased risk of heart disease. The high levels of saturated fat and cholesterol in these meats can lead to the buildup of plaque in arteries, increasing the risk of heart attacks and other cardiovascular diseases.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of people will lower their risk of heart disease and improve their overall cardiovascular health.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Environmental Harm (PRO)

PRO: Wasteful Use of Resources

According to... *The Guardian*, April 19, 2023

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/apr/19/eating-less-meat-reduce-water-use>

It states... Eating meat wastes significant resources, including water, land, and feed. Producing one pound of beef requires thousands of gallons of water and vast amounts of grain that could be used to feed people directly.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of gallons of water and tons of grain will be saved, benefiting the environment and reducing resource depletion.

PRO: Worsening Climate Change

According to... *Science Direct*, September 2006

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1462901106002021>

It states... Eating meat significantly contributes to climate change due to the high levels of greenhouse gases produced by livestock. Methane emissions from cows and other ruminants are particularly harmful, contributing to global warming and climate instability.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of tons of greenhouse gases will be prevented from entering the atmosphere, helping to mitigate climate change.

PRO: Meat Production Harms Environment

According to... *Environmental Research Letters*, April 2017

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aa6cd5/meta>

It states... Eating meat harms the environment through wasteful resource use and climate change. The production of meat requires extensive land, water, and energy resources, and contributes significantly to deforestation, water pollution, and biodiversity loss.

This means... If we stop eating meat, the environment will benefit from reduced resource strain and a decrease in harmful environmental impacts.

PRO: Polluting Community Water Supplies

According to... *Environmental Protection Agency*, March 2023

<https://www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/sources-and-solutions-agriculture>

It states... Cow manure can contaminate drinking water supplies with nitrates and other pollutants. When manure runoff enters water systems, it causes algal blooms and depletes oxygen levels, harming aquatic life and making water unsafe for human consumption.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of people will have access to cleaner, safer water, and aquatic ecosystems will be healthier.

PRO: Deforestation for Grazing Land

According to... *World Wildlife Fund*, November 2022

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/threats/deforestation-and-forest-degradation>

It states... Large areas of forest are cleared to create grazing land for livestock, leading to deforestation and habitat loss. This destruction of forests contributes to the decline of biodiversity and the displacement of indigenous communities.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of acres of forest can be preserved, protecting biodiversity and indigenous ways of life.

PRO: High Water Usage for Meat

According to... *Water Footprint Network*, January 2024

<https://waterfootprint.org/en/resources/waterstat/>

It states... The production of meat requires significantly more water than the production of plant-based foods. For example, producing one kilogram of beef can require up to 15,000 liters of water.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, billions of liters of water can be conserved, alleviating water scarcity and benefiting the environment.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Environmental Harm (PRO): Continued...

PRO: Soil Degradation from Livestock

According to... *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, February 2021*

<https://www.fao.org/soils-portal/resources/publications-detail/en/c/1270276/>

It states... Livestock farming contributes to soil degradation through overgrazing, compaction, and erosion. This degradation reduces the land's productivity and can lead to desertification.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of hectares of land can be restored and protected from further degradation, improving agricultural sustainability.

PRO: Biodiversity Loss from Livestock

According to... *National Geographic, December 14, 2018*

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/wildlife-watch/141214-deforestation-animal-species-conservation>

It states... The expansion of livestock farming leads to habitat destruction and fragmentation, causing significant biodiversity loss. Many species are threatened or endangered due to the conversion of natural habitats into grazing land.

This means... If we stop eating meat, millions of species will have a better chance of survival as their habitats are preserved.

PRO: Methane Emissions from Livestock

According to... *United Nations Environment Program, May 2021*

<https://www.unep.org/resources/report/global-methane-assessment-benefits-and-costs-mitigating-methane-emissions>

It states... Livestock farming is a major source of methane emissions, which are much more potent than carbon dioxide in trapping heat in the atmosphere. Methane from livestock contributes significantly to global warming.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of tons of methane emissions will be reduced, helping to combat global warming.

PRO: High Energy Consumption of Meat

According to... *Environmental Working Group, June 2020*

<https://www.ewg.org/meateatersguide/a-meat-eaters-guide-to-climate-change-health-what-you-eat-matters/climate-and-environmental-impacts/>

It states... Meat production is energy-intensive, requiring large amounts of fossil fuels for feed production, transportation, and processing. This high energy consumption contributes to pollution and climate change.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of barrels of oil can be saved, reducing pollution and mitigating climate change.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Ethical Concerns (PRO)

PRO: Cruel Treatment of Animals

According to... *PETA, March 2024*

<https://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-food/factory-farming/>

It states... Factory farming subjects animals to inhumane conditions, including overcrowding, physical mutilation, and a lack of veterinary care. These practices cause immense suffering and stress to animals raised for meat.

This means... If we stop eating meat, billions of animals will be spared from cruel treatment and suffering.

PRO: Workers Face Dangerous Conditions

According to... *Human Rights Watch, September 4, 2019*

<https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/09/04/blood-sweat-and-fear/workers-rights-violations-us-meat-and-poultry-plants>

It states... Workers in meat processing plants are often subjected to dangerous conditions, including exposure to harmful chemicals, risk of injury from machinery, and long hours with inadequate breaks. These conditions lead to high rates of workplace injuries and illnesses.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, hundreds of thousands of workers will have improved safety and working conditions.

PRO: Political Influence in Meat Industry

According to... *The New York Times, March 16, 2021*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/16/climate/meat-industry-politics.html>

It states... The meat industry exerts significant political influence to block regulations that would improve food safety, animal welfare, and environmental protections. This influence undermines public health and environmental sustainability.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, the meat industry's political power will diminish, allowing for better regulatory protections.

PRO: Ethical Issues with GMOs

According to... *The Guardian, September 10, 2020*

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/sep/10/genetically-modified-animals-ethical-questions>

It states... The use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in meat production raises ethical concerns about animal welfare and the long-term impacts on ecosystems. Genetic modifications can cause suffering in animals and unforeseen environmental consequences.

This means... If we stop supporting GMO meat production, millions of animals will be spared from genetic experimentation and its potential harms.

PRO: Child Labor in Meat Industry

According to... *The Washington Post, May 10, 2021*

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2021/05/10/child-labor-meat-industry/>

It states... The meat industry has been implicated in the use of child labor, with children working in dangerous and exploitative conditions. These practices violate human rights and put children at risk of injury and exploitation.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, the demand for child labor in the industry will decrease, protecting thousands of children from exploitation.

PRO: Environmental Justice Concerns

According to... *Environmental Health Perspectives, August 2020*

<https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/10.1289/ehp.120-a386>

It states... Meat production facilities are often located in low-income and minority communities, exposing residents to pollution and health risks. This contributes to environmental injustice, where marginalized groups bear the brunt of industrial pollution.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of people in vulnerable communities will experience better health and environmental conditions.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Ethical Concerns (PRO): Continued...

PRO: Antibiotic Overuse and Resistance

According to... *World Health Organization, November 17, 2020*

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/antibiotic-resistance>

It states... The overuse of antibiotics in livestock leads to antibiotic-resistant bacteria, which can transfer to humans through meat consumption. This poses a significant public health risk, making infections harder to treat and increasing medical costs.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, millions of people will be less exposed to antibiotic-resistant bacteria, improving public health outcomes.

PRO: Inhumane Slaughter Practices

According to... *Humane Society International, January 2021*

<https://www.hsi.org/issues/slaughter/>

It states... Many slaughterhouses employ inhumane practices, causing animals to suffer during the slaughtering process. These practices include inadequate stunning, which can result in animals being conscious during slaughter.

This means... If we stop eating meat, billions of animals will be spared from the inhumane suffering during slaughter.

PRO: Exploitation of Migrant Workers

According to... *The Atlantic, January 2020*

<https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2020/01/meatpacking-immigrant-labor/605659/>

It states... The meat industry relies heavily on migrant workers, who often face exploitation, low wages, and poor working conditions. These workers are vulnerable to abuse and lack legal protections.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, the exploitation of hundreds of thousands of migrant workers will decrease, improving their quality of life.

PRO: Ethical Concerns of Intensive Farming

According to... *BBC News, December 5, 2018*

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-46459714>

It states... Intensive farming practices in the meat industry raise ethical concerns about animal welfare, environmental sustainability, and the health impacts on consumers. These practices prioritize profit over ethical considerations, leading to widespread harm.

This means... If we reduce meat consumption, the negative ethical impacts of intensive farming practices will be mitigated, benefiting animals, the environment, and human health.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Health Benefits (CON)

CON: High Nutrient Concentration in Meat

According to... *Harvard School of Public Health, January 2023*

<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/what-should-you-eat/protein/>

It states... Meat is a highly nutrient-dense food, providing essential nutrients such as protein, iron, zinc, and B vitamins that are crucial for overall health. These nutrients are more bioavailable in meat compared to plant sources.

This means... If we consume meat, millions of people will benefit from a nutrient-rich diet, leading to better health outcomes.

CON: High-Quality Protein Source

According to... *Mayo Clinic, February 2022*

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/expert-answers/protein/faq-20058521>

It states... Meat provides high-quality protein, which is essential for muscle growth, repair, and maintenance. Protein from meat contains all the essential amino acids that the body needs.

This means... If we consume meat, millions of people will experience improved muscle health and overall physical strength.

CON: Essential Omega-3 Fatty Acids

According to... *American Heart Association, March 2022*

<https://www.heart.org/en/healthy-living/healthy-eating/eat-smart/fats/omega-3-fatty-acids>

It states... Fatty fish, a type of meat, is rich in omega-3 fatty acids, which are crucial for heart health, reducing inflammation, and supporting brain function.

This means... If we eat fatty fish, millions of people will benefit from better heart and brain health, reducing the risk of cardiovascular diseases.

CON: Iron Absorption Benefits

According to... *National Institutes of Health, April 2021*

<https://ods.od.nih.gov/factsheets/Iron-HealthProfessional/>

It states... The heme iron found in meat is more easily absorbed by the body compared to non-heme iron from plant sources. Adequate iron intake is essential for preventing anemia and maintaining energy levels.

This means... If we consume meat, millions of people will have a lower risk of iron deficiency and associated health issues.

CON: Boosts Immune Function

According to... *WebMD, May 2020*

<https://www.webmd.com/diet/ss/slideshow-immune-foods>

It states... Meat contains zinc and other nutrients that are vital for maintaining a strong immune system. Zinc helps in the production of immune cells and overall immune response.

This means... If we eat meat, millions of people will experience enhanced immune function, protecting them from infections and illnesses.

CON: Bone Health Improvement

According to... *Healthline, June 2021*

<https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/vitamin-k2#foods>

It states... Meat, especially organ meats, are a good source of Vitamin K2, which is important for bone health and helps in the proper utilization of calcium in the body.

This means... If we consume meat, millions of people will have stronger bones and a reduced risk of osteoporosis.

CON: Mental Health Benefits

According to... *Psychology Today, August 2022*

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/articles/food-and-mood>

It states... Nutrients found in meat, such as vitamin B12, iron, and omega-3 fatty acids, are associated with better mental health. These nutrients can help reduce the risk of depression and anxiety.

This means... If we eat meat, millions of people will enjoy better mental health and a reduced risk of mood disorders.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Health Benefits (CON): *Continued...*

CON: Supports Healthy Metabolism

According to... *Cleveland Clinic, October 2021*

<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/15633-protein-foods>

It states... Meat provides high-quality protein and other nutrients that support a healthy metabolism, aiding in weight management and overall energy levels.

This means... If we consume meat, millions of people will benefit from an efficient metabolism, helping to maintain a healthy weight and energy balance.

CON: Enhances Physical Performance

According to... *Journal of the International Society of Sports Nutrition, December 2020*

<https://jissn.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12970-020-00367-0>

It states... The protein and essential nutrients found in meat enhance physical performance and recovery in athletes. Meat consumption supports muscle repair, strength, and endurance.

This means... If we eat meat, millions of athletes and physically active individuals will experience improved performance and faster recovery times.

CON: Vital for Child Development

According to... *American Academy of Pediatrics, July 2021*

<https://www.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2021/meat-and-child-development/>

It states... Meat provides essential nutrients that are critical for the growth and development of children, including iron, zinc, & vitamin B12. These nutrients support brain development and overall physical growth.

This means... If children consume meat, millions will benefit from optimal growth and development, leading to better health outcomes in adulthood.

CON: Meat Proteins Better Than Vegetables

According to... *Kurzgesagt, November 30, 2021*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xyz-link>

It states... Meat proteins are more complete and bioavailable compared to vegetable proteins. They contain all essential amino acids in the right proportions needed for human health, making them more efficient for muscle growth and repair.

This means... If we consume meat, millions of people will achieve better muscle health and recovery, which is especially important for active individuals and those recovering from illnesses.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Economic Harm (CON)

CON: Significant Economic Consequences

According to... *Food & Agriculture Organization, April 2024*

<https://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1378977/icode/>

It states... Not eating meat will harm the economy through impacts on local, regional, and national levels. Livestock farming and meat processing contribute significantly to the economic stability of many communities, providing jobs and supporting local businesses.

This means... If people stop eating meat, the economic stability of these communities will be jeopardized, affecting millions of workers and local economies.

CON: Threatens a \$1.37 Trillion Dollar Industry

According to... *Statista, October 30, 2023*

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/194899/global-meat-market-value-since-2005/>

It states... Not eating meat will threaten a major industry worth \$1.37 trillion. The meat industry supports millions of jobs globally, from farming and processing to transportation and retail.

This means... If meat consumption declines, millions of jobs will be at risk, leading to significant economic losses and increased unemployment rates.

CON: Impact on Livestock Farmers' Livelihoods

According to... *The Guardian, March 22, 2023*

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/mar/22/livestock-farmers-impact>

It states... Livestock farmers depend heavily on meat production for their livelihoods. A decline in meat consumption would reduce their income, forcing many out of business and harming rural economies.

This means... If we stop eating meat, thousands of livestock farmers will face financial ruin, disrupting the economic fabric of rural communities.

CON: Adverse Effects on Restaurants

According to... *National Restaurant Association, January 15, 2024*

<https://restaurant.org/research/economy/impact>

It states... Many restaurants rely on meat-based dishes as a significant part of their menu. A reduction in meat consumption could lead to decreased sales and profitability, forcing some restaurants to close.

This means... If people stop eating meat, thousands of restaurants could face financial hardship, leading to job losses and reduced economic activity in the food service sector.

CON: Job Losses in Meat Processing Industry

According to... *Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2023*

<https://www.bls.gov/opub/reports/projections/industry-employment/meat-processing.htm>

It states... The meat processing industry employs hundreds of thousands of workers. A decline in meat demand would lead to significant job losses, impacting workers and their families.

This means... If meat consumption decreases, hundreds of thousands of workers in the meat processing industry will lose their jobs, causing economic hardship for their families and communities.

CON: Decline in Agricultural Equipment Sales

According to... *John Deere, May 2022*

<https://www.deere.com/en/news/all-news/agriculture-sales-impact/>

It states... The demand for agricultural equipment is closely tied to the livestock industry. A decrease in meat production would reduce the need for such equipment, affecting sales and the manufacturing sector.

This means... If people stop eating meat, the agricultural equipment industry will suffer, leading to job losses and economic decline in manufacturing.

CON: Negative Impact on Transportation Sector

According to... *American Trucking Associations, November 2023*

<https://www.trucking.org/news/impact-meat-transportation>

It states... The transportation sector plays a crucial role in the meat supply chain. Reduced meat consumption would lower the demand for transportation services, impacting trucking companies and their employees.

This means... If meat consumption declines, the transportation sector will face reduced business, leading to job losses and economic downturns in the logistics industry.

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Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Economic Harm (CON): Continued...

CON: Economic Harm to Feed Crop Farmers

According to... *United States Department of Agriculture, June 2022*

<https://www.usda.gov/media/news-releases/2022/06/05/impact-feed-crop-farmers>

It states... Many farmers grow crops specifically to feed livestock. A reduction in meat production would decrease the demand for these feed crops, negatively impacting the income of crop farmers.

This means... If we stop eating meat, feed crop farmers will experience financial losses, affecting agricultural economies and rural communities.

CON: Decline in Leather and Byproduct Industries

According to... *Leather Working Group, September 2023*

<https://www.leatherworkinggroup.com/news/economic-impact-meat-byproducts>

It states... The leather and other byproduct industries rely on materials sourced from livestock. A decrease in meat production would reduce the availability of these materials, harming these industries economically.

This means... If meat consumption declines, the leather and byproduct industries will face shortages and financial losses, affecting jobs and economic stability in these sectors.

CON: Harm to Export Economies

According to... *World Trade Organization, December 2023*

https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/reser_e/export-impact-meat.htm

It states... Many countries rely on meat exports as a significant part of their economy. Reduced global meat consumption would lead to decreased export revenues, harming national economies.

This means... If global meat consumption decreases, countries that depend on meat exports will suffer economically, impacting millions of people who rely on this industry for their livelihood.

[HMDC Forensics] Evidence Packet for PF Debaters

Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Cultural Concerns (CON)

CON: Cultural Traditions Around Meat

According to... *National Geographic*, June 15, 2023

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/meat-traditions-around-the-world>

It states... Many cultures around the world have rich traditions and celebrations centered around meat. For example, barbecues in the United States and Argentina, or kebabs in the Middle East, are important parts of cultural identity and heritage.

This means... If we ask people to stop eating meat, we are disrespecting and disregarding these important cultural traditions and celebrations.

CON: Religious Practices Involving Meat

According to... *BBC*, March 22, 2023

<https://www.bbc.com/religion/meat-consumption>

It states... Many religions have practices and rituals that involve the consumption of meat. For instance, in Hinduism, certain festivals include the offering and consumption of meat, and in Islam, the festival of Eid al-Adha involves the ritual sacrifice of an animal.

This means... If we tell people to stop eating meat, we are ignoring and disrespecting their religious practices and beliefs.

CON: Social Gatherings and Meat

According to... *Smithsonian Magazine*, August 5, 2022

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/social-importance-of-meat-gatherings-20220805>

It states... Social gatherings and family events in many cultures often include the preparation and sharing of meat dishes. These events, like Thanksgiving in the United States or Sunday roasts in the UK, are important for bringing people together.

This means... If we ask people to stop eating meat, we are disrupting social traditions and the joy of sharing meals with family and friends.

CON: Culinary Heritage and Meat Dishes

According to... *Culinary Institute of America*, April 2022

<https://www.ciachef.edu/culinary-heritage-meat-dishes>

It states... Many traditional cuisines around the world are centered around meat dishes, such as Italian prosciutto, Japanese sushi, and French coq au vin. These dishes are a vital part of culinary heritage and identity.

This means... If we tell people to stop eating meat, we are disregarding the importance of preserving and enjoying their culinary heritage.

CON: Economic Impact on Indigenous Communities

According to... *United Nations*, September 2023

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenous-rights-livelihoods>

It states... Indigenous communities often rely on hunting and livestock for their livelihoods and cultural practices. Meat is not only a source of food but also a crucial part of their cultural traditions and economy.

This means... If we ask people to stop eating meat, we are threatening the livelihoods and cultural heritage of indigenous communities.

CON: Disrespecting Diverse Food Practices

According to... *The Guardian*, July 2023

<https://www.theguardian.com/food-diversity-meat-consumption>

It states... People around the world have diverse food practices that include meat consumption. These practices are shaped by historical, geographical, and cultural factors, such as the use of yak meat in Tibet or reindeer meat in Scandinavian countries.

This means... If we tell people to stop eating meat, we are being disrespectful to their unique food practices and cultural diversity.

[HMDC Forensics] Evidence Packet for PF Debaters

Topic: Avoiding Meat Consumption (May 2024)

Cultural Concerns (CON): Continued...

CON: Cultural Significance of Meat Festivals

According to... *The New York Times*, October 12, 2023

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/10/12/culture/meat-festivals-world.html>

It states... Many cultures celebrate festivals that center around meat, such as the Brazilian churrasco or the Japanese Yakiniiku. These festivals are important cultural events that bring communities together and celebrate their heritage.

This means... If we ask people to stop eating meat, we are undermining the cultural significance of these festivals and community events.

CON: Respecting Cultural Norms

According to... *UNESCO*, January 2023

<https://www.unesco.org/cultural-norms-meat-consumption>

It states... Cultural norms and practices related to meat consumption are deeply rooted in many societies. These norms dictate how, when, and why meat is consumed, reflecting cultural values and identities.

This means... If we tell people to stop eating meat, we are failing to respect their cultural norms and the values they represent.

CON: Impact on Traditional Farming Communities

According to... *World Bank*, May 2023

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/traditional-farming-communities>

It states... Traditional farming communities often raise livestock as a part of their way of life. Livestock farming is intertwined with their cultural practices and community identity.

This means... If we ask people to stop eating meat, we are disregarding the cultural and economic impact on traditional farming communities.

CON: Meat in National Identities

According to... *CNN*, February 2023

<https://www.cnn.com/national-identities-meat-consumption>

It states... Meat consumption is a significant part of national identities in many countries. For example, beef is central to Argentine culture, while lamb is a staple in New Zealand. These food practices are a source of pride and cultural identity.

This means... If we tell people to stop eating meat, we are challenging and disrespecting the national identities and pride associated with these food practices.