



Philosophy Comes to Dinner: Arguments About the Ethics of Eating

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Everyone is talking about food. Chefs are celebrities. "Locavore" and "freegan" have earned spots in the dictionary. Popular books and films about food production and consumption are exposing the unintended consequences of the standard American diet. Questions about the principles and values that ought to guide decisions about dinner have become urgent for moral, ecological, and health-related reasons. In *Philosophy Comes to Dinner*, twelve philosophers—some leading voices, some inspiring new ones—join the conversation, and consider issues ranging from the sustainability of modern agriculture, to consumer complicity in animal exploitation, to the pros and cons of alternative diets.

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Editorial Review

Review

"In the last few years much has been written that should psychologically (and perhaps physically) unsettle those who eat the typical American diet. This book ups the ante. Not only does it contain important new arguments, it is packed with provocative new questions. The publication of this book marks the emergence of the philosophy of food as a vibrant new field of inquiry."

Dale W. Jamieson, New York University

"Whether your food choices are void of ethical meaning to you or you consider yourself an eminently ethical eater, *Philosophy Comes to Dinner* offers serious food for thought. If you're hungry to challenge your own ethical notions about food, check this book out."

Paul Shapiro, The Humane Society of the United States

"A really brilliant collection. I've never seen such rational jujitsu on such a deadly subject. Bound to become a classic of practical philosophy."

Andrew Linzey, director of the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics and author of *Animal Theology*

"It is difficult to stress how much we need this gem of a book. Concerned consumers have been discussing food reform for decades. An entire social movement has even formed around the issue. But?somewhat astonishingly?we have yet to think systematically about the ethical implications of our proposals. *Philosophy Comes to Dinner* changes that. In a culinary world marked by simplistic and polarized extremes?organic versus conventional, free trade versus fair trade, local versus global food, vegan versus "conscientious carnivore," and so on? it asks us (very politely, no less) to exchange ideology for reflection and systematically explore *why* we're making the food choices we make. You may not walk away with all the answers--that would be very dull-- but you will never look at the contemporary food issues the same way again."

James McWilliams, author of *The Modern Savage* and *Just Food*

"In recent years, I've seen an explosion of student and public interest in the politics and ethics of food. It's great to have philosophers contributing to this discussion, and this book explains why."

Marion Nestle, New York University, USA, and author of *Food Politics*

"The book as a whole is accessible to non-philosophical audiences and would be a fertile resource for people inside or outside philosophy looking to get up to speed on the current state of the food ethics debate. I enthusiastically recommend you pull up a chair to the philosophy dinner table and enjoy the conversation."

Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews

About the Author

Andrew Chignell is Associate Professor at Cornell University. His research focuses on Kant and other early modern philosophers. Typically he has worked on epistemology, aesthetics, and philosophy of religion. He is the co-instructor of "The Ethics of Eating" Massive Online Open Course on Edx.org and a contributor to the *Oxford Handbook of Food Ethics*.

Terence Cuneo is the Marsh Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy at the University of Vermont. He is the author of *The Normative Web* (2007), *Speech and Morality* (2014), and *Ritualized Faith* (2016).

Matthew C. Halteman is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Calvin College and a fellow in the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics. He is the author of *Compassionate Eating as Care of Creation* (2008).

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