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The Food, The Pets, The Sacred Object: On the Negative Balance of Being

This paper aims to discuss the relationship between humans and animals: how we humans entertain and love animals as pets and also exploit and kill them like the sacred objects as for food and commercial products. The paper will be divided into two parts: the first is to use Žižekian-Lacanian psychoanalytic theories to analyze how in this post-ideological and high-tech society, we humans, becoming more individual, narcissistic and paranoid, in fact, emotionally depend on animals as pets, as more trust-worthy loved objects of desire, to fill out the void of the heart; the second is to deal with the inhuman way the humans exploit the animals as the major food and this flesh-eating habit actually contributes to the global warming, as some recent documentary films—especially the latest, *A Delicate Balance, The Truth*, directed by Australian Aaron Scheibner—report how the major culprit to the global warming, in addition to the carbon dioxide emitted from cars, is the animal agriculture that actually has devastated the rainforest and has destabilized the ecosystem, besides, animals proteins develop faster in human bodies various kinds of diseases, like cancer. As to this latter part, I'll use Giorgio Agamben's notion of the "bare life" in his book, *Homo Sacer*, to discuss how humans, without punishment from Law, treat animals as sacred objects: to be killed, tortured, and sacrificed for our own benefits. Together, my final discussion also includes the controversial ethical issue in a Japanese film, *School Days with a Pig*.