



...what we feel is fully as important to the outcome of social affairs as what we think or do

Arlie Hochschild (1990, p.117)

Sociologists have long understood that the social world is not a solely rational place: it is messy, it is interactional and it is *felt*. Emotion management has a key role in supporting both work done *to* nonhuman animals (e.g. animal testing, f(h)arming, slaughter), and *for* nonhuman animals (e.g. activism, caretaking, critical animal research).

Increasing acknowledgement of the emotional and sensory experiences of nonhuman animals opens up exciting new avenues through which to better understand and challenge their exploitation. Here, methodological and theoretical innovation provides key resources for vegan sociologists to expand their toolkit.

In the 2025 meeting of the International Association of Vegan Sociologists we invite participants to consider how emotions and sensory experiences are integral to understanding and challenging nonhuman animal exploitation.



Saturday, October 4, 2025		ACST (Adelaide)	BST (London)	EDT (Toronto)
Opening Remarks	15 minutes	5:45pm	9:15am	4:15am
Meet our 2025 Committee	15 minutes	6:00pm	9:30am	4:30am
Session 1: Doing Vegan Research Navigating emotions and sensory experiences in vegan sociological research with and for nonhuman animals Towards a Vegan Standpoint: The epistemological and methodological repercussions of The Animatrix	40 mins	6:15pm	9:45am	4:45am
Marlies Bockstal New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies marlies.bockstal@pg.canterbury.ac.nz Kate Stewart Matthew Melsa Lynda Korimboccus The University of East Anglia The Open University The University of East Anglia kate.stewart@uea.ac.uk				
Session 2: Affect & Activism I Sensory experiences and the body: The transformational potential of human-animal eye contact Bearing witness to trans-species trauma: Mobilising affect across the human-animal divide Recipe Sharing as Activism in Australian Vegan Communities	1 hour	6:55pm	10:25am	5:15am
Ondine Sherman University of Sydney ondine_sherman@hotmail.com Cassie A. Pedersen Federation University c.pedersen@federation.edu.au Marie-Elyse Smith Griffith University marie-elyse.smith@griffithuni.edu.au				
45 minute break				
Session 3: Exploited Animals Representations of nonhuman animal emotions: 'happy' exploited animals, suicide food, attempts to build empathy Grievable Lives? A Sociology of emotions lens on the South Australian Algal Bloom Crisis Misrepresenting Captive Nonhuman Animals as Happy: The Sad Case of Happy the Elephant.	1 hour	8:40pm	12:10pm	7:10am
Olatz Aranceta UPF-Centre for Animal Ethics Animalia Ikasketa Kritikoak (AIK) olatz.aranceta@upf.edu Zoei Sutton Flinders University Zoei.sutton@flinders.edu.au Jane McElligott Purdue University Global jmcelligott@purdueglobal.edu				
~Maria Martelli Creative Interlude (15 minute)~		9:40pm	1:10pm	8:10am
45 minute break				
Saturday, October 4, 2025 cont'd		ACST (Adelaide)	BST (London)	EDT (Toronto)
Session 4: Vegan emotionality	1 hour	10:40pm	2:10pm	9:10am



Contesting the trope of an unemotional man: emotion and affect in men's veganism

Kadri Aavik

*Tallinn University
kadria@tlu.ee*

Key intersections between Non-human Animals and Plurisexual Individuals

Alex Sainsbury

*University of Kent
Ajs219@kent.ac.uk*

Toward a prefigurative emotional culture to challenging nonhuman animal exploitation.

*Alice Poma &
Tommaso
Gravante*

*IIS-UNAM Mexico & CEIICH-UNAM Mexico
apoma@sociales.unam.mx &
gravante@ceiich.unam.mx*

Session 5: Sites of affect

1.25 hour

11:40pm

3:10pm

10:10am

Emotions, disruptions and re-organization: intersectional veganism in post-2019 Lebanon

Dalia Zein

*Tampere University
dalia.zein@tuni.fi*

Vegan Sociological Perspectives on Grief and Moral Injury in the Context of Grief Circles

*Lucja (Lucy)
Lange*

*Institute of Sociology, University of Łódź, Poland
lucja.lange@uni.lodz.pl*

"Do Animals Feel Pain? Should I Go Vegan?": Large Language Models and Animal Issues

*Michael
Briscoe*

*Department of Sociology, Criminology, and
Anthropology, Colorado State University Pueblo
michael.briscoe@csupueblo.edu*

From Silence to Liberation: Healing the Wounded Activist

*Gillian M.
Walters*

*California Institute of Integral Studies
gwalters@mymail.ciis.edu*

1:00am*

4:30pm

11:30am

Day 1 Conference Close

**Next day*



Sunday, October 5, 2025

ACDT
(Adelaide)
Note!
Daylight
savings
time from
3am

BST
(London)

EDT
(Toronto)

Session : Affective Social Imaginaries

1 hour

6:00pm

8:30am

3:30am

Vegan Witchcraft: Sensing, Grounding, Liberating

Corey Wrenn

International Association of Vegan Sociologists
corey.wrenn@gmail.com

Aldo Leopold, Val Plumwood and Beyond. A Modest Proposal for a Turbid Ecology

Federica Timeto

Ca' Foscari University of Venice
federica.timeto@unive.it

Relational Proximities and Epistemic Spaces: An Intersectional Ethnography of Himalayan More-Than-Human Cosmologies

Rita Mancini

Ca' Foscari University of Venice
rita.mancini@unive.it

Panel: Emotions in Australian Human-Animal Relations (1hr)

7:00pm

9:30am

4:30am

1 hour break

Session 7 Understanding human-“pest” relations

1 hour

9:00pm

11:30am

6:30am

Compounding knowledges: Attending to insects between sociology and the natural sciences

Alex Hill

Flinders University
Hillo743@flinders.edu.au

Caring for ‘pests’ in conservation: The importance of embracing emotion in the field of social work

Emily Major

Independent Scholar
emilymajor@gmail.com

Rats and Redemption: Species Symbolism and Social Order in Early Bermuda

Sydney Newell

William & Mary
smnewell@wm.edu

30 minute break

Session 8: Affect & Activism II

40 mins

10:30pm

1:00pm

8:00am

“My Heart Was Exploding”: Emotions, Bodies, and Radicality in Antispeciesist Sanctuaries. A Sociological Reading from Alma Libre

Giorgia Pagliuca

University of Gastronomic Sciences and University of Turin
g.pagliuca@studenti.unisg.it

Sensing beyond the sensible: Rethinking Human-Nonhuman Animal Relations Through (Extra)Ordinary Vegan Street Activism

Niamh Nelson-Owens

University of Manchester
niamh.nelson-owens@manchester.ac.uk

Sunday, October 5, 2025 cont'd

ACDT (Adelaide) BST (London) EDT (Toronto)



Session 9: Governed Affect		40 minutes	11:30pm	2:00pm	9:00am
<i>Irrational feelings: emotional norms, governance, and the marginalization of psychiatrized human and non-human animals</i>	Federica Peluso Giulia Regoli	Università di Roma "La Sapienza" Independent Researcher federica.peluso@uniroma1.it giuliaregoli51@gmail.com			
<i>The Neoliberal Death of Feeling: Empathy, Hierarchy, and the Sociological Imperative for Vegan Ethics</i>	Peter Marina	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse pjmarina@gmail.com			
~The Vegan and the Carnivore- An Interspecies Love Story (15 minutes) with Julia Archer			12:10am*	2:40pm	9:40am
45 minute break					
Session 10: Meat		1 hour	1:10am	3:40pm	10:40am
<i>Emotional 'boundary labour': relations between humans and 'animals-as-food'</i>	Nora Katharina Faltmann	University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna nora.faltmann@boku.ac.at			
<i>Loved to Death: "Humane" Meat and the Logic of the Species Contract</i>	Vasile Stănescu	Mercer University stanescu_vt@mercercu.edu			
<i>The meat-paradox: justifying meat consumption across development and cultural communities</i>	Federica Amici	Leipzig University amici@eva.mpg.de			
Concluding Comments: IAVS Conference Organizing Committee		5 minutes	2:10am	4:40pm	11:40am
International Association of Vegan Sociologists: Annual Business Meeting		1 hour	2:15am	4:45pm	11:45am
IAVS 2025 Concludes			3:15am	5:45pm	12:45pm



General Instructions for Speakers

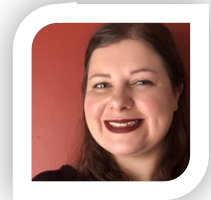
- Please register for the conference via the [Humanitix](#) link. Access details will be sent distributed via the Humanitix participant list.
- The conference will be hosted on Zoom. The zoom link and password will be emailed to presenters and attendees in the week before the conference.
- Login 10 minutes before the actual start of the webinar for a technology check
- The webinar will go 'live' 5 minutes in advance to allow attendees to login and test their sound
- The session host (Zoei, or Corey) will be opening the session and posting a welcome slide for the session.
- Zoei, or Corey will be moderating the individual sessions and introducing you as a presenter
 - After you present, the moderator will read questions from the audience in the chat for you to respond
- The presenter will be responsible for operating their slide presentation (if applicable)
 - Have your presentation open on your computer
 - Select 'Share Screen' in green in your toolbar of the screen (you will see once logged in)
 - Click on the presentation and 'Slide Show' in the document
 - Remember to 'Stop Screen Share' when you finish presenting
 - You may choose to have a final slide on your presentation 'Questions' for attendees to view while you respond to questions
- The attendees will only be able to view the 'active speaker' and whatever is shared
 - If you do not wish to be viewed 'live' while speaking, please upload a picture in your zoom profile
- Presentations are not recorded and will not be available after the conference so please feel free to arrange your own recording as IAVS do not have capacity to provide this. **If you do record your presentation and would like this included in the IAVS youtube channel please send a link to your recording file with [this completed form](#) to info@vegansociology.com**
- Please feel free to stay and interact in the breaks! IAVS is a friendly conference and these informal times are a great opportunity to turn your video on, unmute and chat with your peers (It is also fine to disappear in the breaks if this isn't your thing).



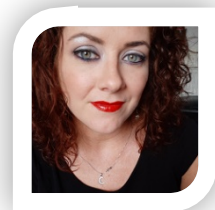
Event Organizers

Dr Zoei Sutton

Dr Zoei Sutton is a vegan sociologist living and working on unceded Kurna land in Southern Australia. She focuses on centring nonhuman animals in research that concerns them in order to highlight the invisibilised power relations and interactions that maintain anthroparchy in everyday life. Recent projects include lived experiences of human-companion animal relations, multispecies rental housing and constructed killability of 'pest' animals. She is a Senior Lecturer at Flinders University, the co-founder of the International Association of Vegan Sociologists and current Chair of the Australasian Animal Studies Association.



Dr Corey Wrenn



Dr. Wrenn is Senior Lecturer of Sociology with the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research (SSPSSR) and Co-Director of the Centre for the Study of Social and Political Movements at the University of Kent. She served as council member with the American Sociological Association's Animals & Society section (2013-2016), was elected Chair in 2018, and co-founded the International Association of Vegan Sociologists in 2020. She serves as Book Review Editor to Society & Animals, is a member of The Vegan Society's Research Advisory Committee, and hosts Sociology & Animals Podcast. In July 2013, she founded

the Vegan Feminist Network, an academic-activist project engaging intersectional social justice praxis. She is the author of A Rational Approach to Animal Rights: Extensions in Abolitionist Theory (Palgrave MacMillan 2016), Piecemeal Protest: Animal Rights in the Age of Nonprofits (University of Michigan Press 2019), and Animals in Irish Society (SUNY Press 2021).

International Association of Vegan Sociologists



The International Association of Vegan Sociologists is a scholar-activist collective putting sociological theory and practice in the service of animal liberation and veganism. It was founded in May 2020 by Corey Wrenn, Chair of the Animals & Society Section of the American Sociological Association and Zoei Sutton, Co-Convener of the Australian Sociological Association's Sociology and Animals Thematic Group.

This association was formed to provide a platform for sociologists of a Critical Animal Studies background who recognize veganism and anti-speciesism as an ethical imperative in the discipline.

*Our aim is to increase the visibility and legitimacy of vegan sociology, provide opportunities for career development, and facilitate transnational networking.
We are completely volunteer-based.*

Email: info@vegansociology.com
Twitter: [@vegansociology](https://twitter.com/vegansociology)
Facebook: [@vegansociology](https://www.facebook.com/vegansociology)
Web: vegansociology.com



2025 IAVS Committee

Alex Hill (Event Coordinator)

Alex is a qualitative sociologist and doctoral student in Sociology at Flinders University. Their research examines insect-human relations under anthroparchy and, in particular, the invisibility of 'creepy crawlies' in the social sciences. Alex is broadly interested in species, gender, and veganism, and holds an MRes in Sociology (thesis title: *Soyboys Will Be Boys*) at Macquarie University. They have the privilege of living on beautiful Dharug and Gundungurra land in the Blue Mountains of NSW, and can often be found cooking, worldbuilding, or watching cicadas



Marlies Bockstal (Blog Editor)

Marlies is a PhD student in Human-Animal Studies at the New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies at the University of Canterbury. She holds a Master of Science in Sociology from Ghent University, Belgium. Her research focuses on pedigree dog breeding in Aotearoa New Zealand, looking in particular at how pedigree dog breeders legitimise their breeding practices through a discourse of 'responsible breeding'. She is interested in critical pet studies, feminism, intersectionality and sensory ethnography.



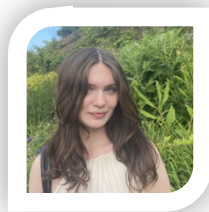
Dr Stephen L. Muzatti (Newsletter Editor)

Dr Muzzatti's research lies in the intersection of cultural and ultra-realist criminologies with particular attention to crime, social harm, consumerism and human interaction with animals. He is interested in the intertwining social dynamics of neoliberalism, brutality and victimisation. His research sites include crime and media, human-animal relations (particularly, but not exclusively, domestic companion animals and urban wildlife), terrorism, state and corporate crime, narcissism, working-class spaces and identities, motorcycle culture, the Italian-Canadian community, advertising and the monetisation of violence.



Libby Hooper (Social Media Coordinator)

Libby is an undergraduate Sociology student at the University of Cambridge. Her current research qualitatively explores experiences of stigmatisation and empowerment amongst women in the animal rights movement. Her interests more broadly focus on speciesism, the (de)valuation of (non)human life, and necropolitics.



We are currently accepting expressions of interest for our 2026 Committee!
See [here](#) for more information.



National Sociology Groups with Animal Themes

While these groups do not always subscribe to a vegan baseline as we do at IAVS below are groups available to join at a national level if you are interested in presenting (and visibilising) vegan sociology in your closest national sociology association.

TASA Sociology & Animals Thematic Group



The Australian Sociological Association's Sociology and Animals Thematic Group aims to contribute to the idea of nonhuman animals as critical members, and stakeholders in societies, who co-produce 'the social' along with humans and other nonhumans. With the rise of human-animal scholarship, sociologists are increasingly recognising the importance of including non-human animals in our academic endeavours, and the urgency of studying animals as actors, as well as subjects of marginalisation in societies. The aim of the Sociology and Animals Thematic Group is to create a supportive network of scholars working in human-animal studies, critical animal studies and/or other animal-related areas to facilitate the exchange of ideas, critical discussion and coordination of relevant academic events. We welcome all scholars conducting sociological research about, for, and/or with nonhuman animals.

Email our conveners: zoei.sutton@adelaide.edu.au, alexander.hill@students.mq.edu.au, j.browne@griffith.edu.au

Twitter: @tasaanimals

Facebook: @tasaanimals

Web: www.tasa.org.au

CSA Animals in society research cluster



We are the **Animals in Society** research cluster (RC) of the Canadian Sociological Association (CSA)! As sociologists, we see value in scholarship that goes beyond an anthropocentric understanding of Canadian society, one that includes the non- or other-than-human and pays particular attention to "the question of the animal". The work of this RC is inclusive, anti-oppressive, and critical in nature. Working from an interdisciplinary perspective, we seek to expand current interpretations of societal structures and institutions, social norms, practices, policies, and relations that involve humans and other beings. The Animals in Society RC recognizes and respects that **we are all animals in a shared society**.

email our conveners: rstevenson@tru.ca or lindsays@mcmaster.ca

web: www.csa-scs.ca

ASA section on animals and society



The purpose of the American Sociological Association's Section on Animals and Society is to encourage and support the development of theory, research and teaching about the complex relationships that exist between humans and other animals. In the process, it is anticipated that the light we shed on these issues will increase the well-being of both humans, and other animals.

email our convener: corey.wrenN@gmail.com

Twitter: @Animals_Society

Facebook: @AnimalsAndSocietyASA

Web: www.asanet.org

BSA Animal/Human Studies Group



The study of animal-human relations within the social sciences is an increasingly important, vibrant and burgeoning field. The formation of the BSA Animal/Human Studies Group in June 2006 is therefore an important step towards addressing what Bryant (1979) has called the 'zoological connection', whereby sociologists need to recognise that people co-exist and interact not only with humans but with non-human animals too. For example, animals are increasingly utilised and involved in biotechnology and genomics; animal experimentation; the production and slaughter of food animals; companion animal-human type relationships and the therapeutic use of animals. Moreover, additional animal-related issues that have attracted attention by researchers are: the potential links between animal abuse and domestic violence; the nature of animal-animal interaction; potential links between women, nature and animals; bestiality; human-wildlife interactions; and human responses to companion animal death/euthanasia. Sociologists have much to offer this emerging area of study and are well placed to engage with the multifaceted, ambiguous and challenging nature of the animal-human interface in everyday life.

email the convener: r.m.wilkie@abdn.ac.uk

Web: <https://www.britisoc.co.uk/groups/study-groups/animalhuman-studies-group-ahsg>