

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a sentient being as "capable of sensing or feeling : conscious of or responsive to the sensations of seeing, hearing, feeling, tasting, or smelling"

Sheep are sentient beings - they feel pain, fear, hunger just as human beings do but lack the capacity to defend themselves. That responsibility belongs to human society which exploits animals such as sheep. We owe it to the animals.

The live export trade should be ended as soon as possible, the sooner the better. Alternative avenues for the export of meat should be established in order to minimise the financial impact on current exporters. Given the right level of support and the will I see no reason why the live export trade cannot be ended before the next northern hemisphere's summer - it is already too late for this one.