A Modest Proposal For Satisfying Primal Hunger in the United States

Emily Schoenbeck
College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/studio_one
Part of the Arts and Humanities Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/studio_one/vol41/iss1/28
A Modest Proposal For Satisfying Primal Hunger
in the United States

An issue of alarming nature in the United States has finally achieved a level of prominence that would make it criminal to ignore. Male members of the U.S. population continue to be underserved in regards to their emotional and physical development, and this continued ignorance of an entire half our population has negative ramifications that threaten to affect our society as a whole. With this affliction striking at roughly one eighth of the population, the possibility that we as a country could continue to go about life as usual would be laughable, if it were not very much the reality. The solution I have reached, as I feel anyone who closely examined the problem would, is that we must utilize our primary resource and legalize the consumption of human flesh and other such viable parts of the human body.

At first glance, I admit this proposal appears shocking, perhaps even troubling, to some individuals, but the benefits alone of legalizing cannibalism should put many of its would-be-opponents at ease. I need not remind you of the point supported by nearly indisputable antidotal evidence: men are voracious eaters. Cannibalism simply allows for those who are hungry to take care of themselves. Its time the laws of the United States adequately addressed the needs of men. Flesh consumption also aids some of the most vulnerable of our society: the multitude of “nice guys” who find themselves inexplicably unable to acquire the satisfaction they require. This policy would finally allow their results to match their efforts, real or perceived. It would finally offer men the opportunity to feel fully secure in themselves and their abilities, a pressing concern in our present day society.

Like any proposal, especially the most visionary, there will be those who voice concerns, as they should. Allow me to address some of the issues that will of course be the most pressing, such as, who is eligible for consumption. Now there are those who will flippantly respond, “anyone who can be eaten”, but I believe this is to deal unfairly with what is a very fair question. Others will respond with, “The weaker are easier to
pick off. They’re meant to be eaten.”, a beautiful example of Darwinian logic and worth considering. The truth is, however, that we already have a means in place for identifying the “consumables”.

We are a society based on visual cues. You need only look around your average shopping mall, bar, or school to witness people advertising their flesh. When people wear clothing that reveals more skin and opens their bodies up to the admiration of the general public, they are, in truth, attempting to signal people their bodies are prime pickings. The legalization of consuming flesh would simply be acknowledging what most of us have long known to be true: they are asking to be eaten.

Similar to smoking and other vices, society would also no doubt limit this kind of indulgence. By self-regulating this behavior to certain establishments, bars would likely become one such feasting friendly place, those who wish to avoid being eaten need only avoid places where the activity is common. If they choose to continue to visit such places for their enjoyment, they must also assume the risk. Let’s also not forget those who are being consumed always have the option of telling their consumers “no”. They must realize that hungry people are going to assume their satisfaction is adequate justification unless they are told otherwise. It’s simply a matter of common sense and courtesy.

As a catch-all to any minor remaining concerns, it must go without saying that not all men who are hungry will choose cannibalism. Those who insist this does not matter insist on blowing the possible negative effects out of proportion. Focusing on the cannibalistic downplays how many men choose not to engage in it. It creates the illusion of a problem more widespread than it is, and suggests that, just because people are not currently being consumed, potential consumption could in some way disrupt their lives. They are nothing more than an overzealous minority yelling at shadows.

It’s time we all looked at the world as it is and dealt honestly with the issue. Those suffering for reasons beyond their control must be heard and met with compassion. It’s time we stopped ignoring the cannibals among us. Having outlined the natural tendencies that make such a law viable, expounded on the clear benefits to all those involved, and ade-
quately addressed the concerns the more sensitive members of our society feel, any reader must see the logic of such cannibalism. It is my firm belief that this proposal will be met with all the furor it deserves.

**Bibliography**


Emily Schoenbeck
College of St. Benedict ‘16