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## Collective Responsibility and the 'Life Worth Living': Karl Jaspers and the Animal Question

### *Abstract*

*Nussbaum's latest book Justice for Animals: Our Collective Responsibility advances the idea that all human beings have a moral, and political responsibility for the increasing cruelties inflicted on animals. Karl Jaspers explores collective responsibility in his 1946 book, The Question of German Guilt, which argues that every human being is metaphysically responsible for every injustice committed to 'others' on the basis of an invisible solidarity. This paper: a) shows that Jaspers' perspective supports a collective responsibility for the injustices committed to animals; b) argues that Jaspers' notion of 'life worth living', originally designed for human existence, can also be fruitfully applied to animal life.*