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## Post: Why veganism isn't communism



Created by [Brittany Bunk](#) on 02-Nov-2021

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### Content

After being called a communist for being vegan, I asked the person why and they said they had nothing else that they can insult me with. I see so many times people calling veganism communism and the word 'communism' thrown around to where it becomes meaningless and this person just proves exactly that point.

Let's start with the definitions (from 'The Free Dictionary'):

- communism:
  - A theoretical economic system characterized by the collective ownership of property and by the organization of labor for the common advantage of all members.
  - A system of government in which the state plans and controls the economy and a single, often authoritarian party holds power, claiming to make progress toward a higher social order in which all goods are equally shared by the people.
  - The Marxist-Leninist doctrine advocating revolution to overthrow the capitalist system and establish a dictatorship of the proletariat that will eventually evolve into a perfectly egalitarian and communal society.
- veganism:
  - a philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude—as far as is possible and practicable—all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose; and by extension, promotes the development and use of animal-free alternatives for the benefit of animals, humans and the environment. In dietary terms it denotes the practice of dispensing with all products derived wholly or partly from animals.

Do those look the same? It says that communism's an economic or political system or methodology. Veganism is a philosophy. So no - they're about different subjects. Do these overlap? Sure, they're both ideologies.

If they're not the same, why do people conflate them?

1. It's for non-vegan reasons
  1. people don't want change, and veganism is a sign of that
    1. it can be increased by an echo chamber, such as by not wanting to see veganism in capitalism
  2. people have other issues that they use veganism as a scapegoat to blame or vessel to explain them
    1. it's felt like a personal attack and to take the attention off will put it on vegans instead (like in my situation)
2. it's reminiscent of communism of the past (that people then didn't and still don't want)
  1. it's promoted by political parties that want big government
  2. it takes away something that's real and replaces it with something fake (like fake meat)
  3. it can be mixed in with greenwashing where one idea is praised and another isn't

I personally haven't lived in any communistic system that I'm aware of, but my proof that veganism isn't communism is:

1. it exists in a capitalistic system (see vegan stocks on the stock market)
2. animal products have been in communistic systems
3. animal rights go beyond anything that impacts humans
4. just because veganism looks like communism, doesn't mean it is one: correlation  $\neq$  causation

**In conclusion:** just because veganism and communism overlap, where veganism can be inside a communistic system, doesn't mean it's limited to that, and so they are separate entities. I hope this helps this idea go away, along with others, like how some people feel veganism is a religion, when religion is like communism: just another ideology but for a different subject that has overlap with religion, but veganism isn't limited to it.





## Comments



**prad**

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The usual policy is but anything you don't like you called communism or terrorism or whatever is in fashion at the time. On the other side of the world, vegans are probably called imperialists or capitalist. Well you get the idea.

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