

# The case for the right to earth

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## Abstract

The right to earth is more abstract, but not incompatible with the right to property.

## 1 Objective

To present the case for the right to earth implied by native reservation territory.

## 2 Subjective

How can we find peace without recognizing our obligations as stewards of this land, this country, the region of the planet over which we have fought and murdered?

It is not because the people who came before us don't claim the rights of property that we are free from the obligation of stewardship. Did we not take up that rôle?

Such is the want that would apply the misplaced principle to native lands. Are we afraid of the nomadic? Are we still salting their earth that they can't live on it? Indeed, we should not preserve ourselves by recognizing the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to not artificially exclude ourselves. Those of us with another sense of spirit and soul would bring greater health if we would not project our dishealth onto every possible case or situation. This is the history of these United States. That old superstitions and delusions overcome our conscious principle in rhetoric and silence.

I expect that even the least among us will reject the superficial when consciously illuminated. This we have done, and in the moment of collective understanding we must recognize the collective capacity to do right by ourselves in the most inclusive sense.

One man's property is another man's earth where our family claims the rights of earth. These delineations have been made in our history. There is no cause for the defense of one concept over the other. There is only the case of actuality

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wherein one steward should oppose another, and in such a case it would be right and just that a court of law should hear and try the case with every degree of impartiality afforded disputes of property or finance. Otherwise we are lost, separated from our obligations, and promoting discord and dishealth.

In these presents there can be no doubt. And from these presents we are obligated to recognize the character of the right of earth. It is free of every impediment and social claim save the natural order the earth was born into. It is an expanse marked only by the presence of those creatures who live on it. This is the right of earth. It is subtle in comparison with the fenced and developed right of property. It is sublime, as it may appear as nothing to some. We have eyes to see. We are not blind to the value of open spaces free of technological development. We depend on them for our freedom, spirit and health. Likewise we depend on the sublime presence of those who would develop and preserve the spiritual within us, for it is no less than that freedom we hold so dear.

The trajectory of the arc of history lies in justice. We have established justice as a third of our self government, and for this we are great. When we betray that greatness – in this context of history and prehistory – we betray an obligation as profound as to render us ignorant and uneducated. Such is the greatness of the opportunity of the United States as the single greatest opportunity facing humanity: the success of this experiment in self government.