

Footnote: Draft Manifesto

Law - in most States on this planet - simply facilitates the containment and exploitation of the poor by the rich. In contrast, this Manifesto is a sincere attempt by a British writer and a Brazilian lawyer to formulate a benign protocol by which all can live in fairness, peace and harmony. [PDF]

Definitions

1. The words 'he' and 'his' herein signify either gender.
2. The needs of the working-age individual include those of his dependants.
3. **S** is each individual's proportional *share* of the habitable land of this planet.
4. **L** is the total area of habitable land on this planet.
5. **P** is the working-age population of this planet.
6. **C** is a factor to compensate for variations in land productivity.
7. Each individual's *landshare* $S = C \times L \div P$
(**S** is **C** multiplied by **L** divided by **P**)

Rights of the Individual

1. The *life* of every human being - wherever he may be at any time - shall be allowed, protected, respected, sustained, and fulfilled. A human being's *life* includes both the biological and physical functionality of his body *plus* the intellectual, emotional and spiritual functionality of his conscious mind. The life of each individual shall be *sustained* by providing all with equal and adequate means and opportunity to acquire and consume their needs of life. Needs of life include: 1) natural daylight, fresh air, water, food, clothing, energy, shelter and health care *for the body* and 2) access to companionship, education, wise counselling and an inspiring natural environment *for the mind*.
2. The life of each individual shall be *fulfilled* by ensuring that all have *freedom* - of movement, information, thought, expression, relationship *plus* the freedom to determine each his own desired balance between privacy and social inclusion.
3. Each human being born on this planet shall, from birth, inherit his share of its habitable land, which is called his *landshare*. Upon reaching [working age](#), he shall inherit, further, the right to the exclusive sustainable economic use of his landshare. These rights shall continue for the duration of his life, at the end of which his landshare shall become available for reallocation.
4. If - at any time - he be unable to provide his own needs of life from his land - due, for example, to his own physical disability, accident or the inclemency of nature - he shall receive his needs of life from the surpluses produced by others.
5. He may not dispossess himself of his *landshare* or exchange it for anything other than an equivalent *landshare* by free and unpressured mutual agreement with its owner. No individual, group or authority may dispossess any individual of his *landshare*. When people marry, their *landshares* may be combined into a single economic unit. This may result in one or both of their *landshares* being re-allocated so that the two *landshares* become physically adjacent. Neither *landshare* of a couple shall be vacated and reallocated until both have died.

6. Each individual has the right to use his special abilities to produce goods and provide services, and to use these for his own benefit or exchange them in fair measure for the different goods and services produced and provided by others.
7. Each individual shall be given subsistence and expenses incurred in the execution of his social duties.
8. Each shall have the right to be judged in any dispute exclusively according to the clear reason and conscience of those appointed to judge him, half of whom shall be peers of his own immediate *community*.

Duties of the Individual

1. His actions towards another shall, according to his reason and conscience, expedite the best compromise between his and the other's fundamental rights, declared wishes and best interests.
2. Insofar as he is able, he shall use his land as his means of turning his labour into his needs of life. He shall also - insofar as he is able - apply a fair share of his labour to the land of those of his *community* who are themselves unable to work in order that their land may provide their needs. He shall try to use his land sustainably so that at the end of his working life it is in at least as good a condition as it was at the beginning.
3. Provided that at any time he shall have sufficient for his own basic needs, he shall give a tenth of the naturally generated economic gain of his land to fund the subsistence and expenses of those performing social duties. In addition, he shall give his surplus when in a time of plenty to those who are in a time of need.
4. He shall make his knowledge and intellectual property freely available to all, and devote an appropriate proportion of his time to giving and receiving education.
5. He shall apply his specialist skills and talents to providing products and services which he may exchange in a free market for those of others.
6. It is the duty of all freely to protect the life, land and possessions of each from the misdemeanours of mankind and from the ravages of nature.
7. He shall, when called upon in fair measure by the parties concerned, combine with peers to arbitrate in accordance with his reason and conscience in a dispute.

Structure of Society

1. The first order of *society* is the *family*. It comprises one working-age couple + their children + such members of the retired generation as are appropriate and fairly agreed with other *families* with whom they have links.
2. The second order of *society* is the *community*. It comprises from 50 to 100 working-age individuals. An existing *community* which grows beyond 100 working-age individuals shall split into two, each of which shall contain at least 50. An existing *community* which falls below 50 working-age individuals shall accept excess individuals from, or merge with, another *community*.
3. The final order of society is the *world*. This is a complex dynamical system whose universal structural element is the *community*. Its entire operation is governed by an Inter-Community Protocol which defines how *communities* interact.

Duties of the Community

1. Each *community* shall organise and sustain an educational programme to impart both local and global knowledge and skills to each individual within it. For this purpose, all *communities* shall make all educational material freely available through a global communications network. The educational programme shall cover the full human life-span. It shall be flexible so that nobody is left behind or misses out through particular personal circumstances.
2. Each *community* shall organise and sustain a fair and equitable system of arbitration for resolving disputes between individuals within it. When reasonably called upon to do so, members of a *community* shall act as arbitrators between disputing individuals from two other separate *communities*.
3. Each *community* shall count its working-age population every 50 years and pass this value to *those whose specialist duty it is* to re-determine P, C and S over the planet's habitable surface. Each *community* shall then co-operate with its neighbouring *communities* to [re-allocate landshares](#) for the next generation.

Permissions and Prohibitions

1. Individuals may associate to share a common interest or co-operate in a common endeavour, but an *association* or *co-operative* so formed has no status as an entity separate from the individuals it comprises.
2. A relationship or dispute may only exist between individuals. A *community*, *association* or *co-operative* cannot enter into a relationship or dispute with an individual, *community*, *association* or *co-operative*.
3. Arbitrators may suspend one or more of an individual's *rights* in order to inhibit his wilful violation of one or more of another's *rights*, or in the event of his unjustifiable wilful neglect of one or more of his *duties*.
4. Equal resources must be provided to both individuals in a dispute with which to present their cases to their arbitrators. This provision must be made by each individual's respective *community*.

Footnotes

1) Working Age

One of many definitions possible within the context of the Draft Manifesto proposed in the book 'The Lost Inheritance'.

For the purpose of this Draft Manifesto, the human life-cycle could be conveniently divided into the following 4 phases:

1. 0 to 20 years - time of growing and learning
2. 20 to 30 years - time of apprenticeship
3. 30 to 70 years - time of responsibility
4. 70+ years - retirement

Of particular significance are phases 2 and 3. Between the ages of 20 and 30 years, I propose that a person not own any economic means. He would work for his parents (or guardians) and gain working knowledge. At the age of 30 he would start to take possession and control of his terrestrial inheritance (land). This process would be completed when his elder parent reached the age of 70 and retired. At the age of 70, he himself would retire and pass on possession and control of his terrestrial economic resources (his land), and take on the role of *wise counsellor* to those to whom it passed.

2) Land Boundaries

Neighbours are prone to dispute over the position of the boundary between their lands. Fence posts can have a habit of creeping one way or the other, leading to an unhealthy resentment that is for the most part buried beneath an ambient feeling of mutual distrust.

For this reason, in the society defined by the Draft Manifesto, boundaries are administrated as follows:

1. The position of a boundary is defined by *outsiders*.
2. No two *shares* of land can have a common boundary. A buffer zone of common land must separate *shares*. This is to allow the traveller free passage over the whole Earth, and space where he may comfortably break his journey along the way.
3. Land boundaries are marked out with marker posts, which are of a universally recognised design. Boundary posts are physically put in place also by *outsiders*.

Outsiders are herein defined simply as people who live far away from, and have no social connection with, the community containing the bounded land.

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