

INALIENABLE RIGHTS

According to the American Constitution, the inalienable rights are those to life, liberty, and property. But at the same time, it was understood that life could be taken in war or in punishment for certain crimes; that liberty was restricted to political matters and to free economic enterprise; and that property took precedence over public interest. We take it, on the other hand, that life must not be taken under any circumstance; that liberty must be restricted by the rights of others; and that property over goods that are the patrimony of mankind, such as mineral resources, is immoral.

Instead of the life, liberty and property trio, we propose the quadruple of the rights to ^{enjoy} life and learning, as well as to gainful work and democracy. If these are adopted as part of a fair morality, then the following become immoral:

the death penalty

unemployment (except in the case of extremely handicapped people)

restrictions on education (e.g. because of lack of economic means),

restrictions on self-government others than those arising from incompetence.