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# Environmental Justice and the Rights of Unborn and Future Generations: Law, Environmental Harm and the Right to Health

Laura Westra

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## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND THE RIGHTS OF UNBORN AND FUTURE GENERATIONS



LAW, ENVIRONMENTAL HARM AND  
THE RIGHT TO HEALTH

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**Laura Westra : Environmental Justice and the Rights of Unborn and Future Generations: Law, Environmental Harm and the Right to Health** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Environmental Justice and the Rights of Unborn and Future Generations: Law, Environmental Harm and the Right to Health:

The traditional concept of social justice is increasingly being challenged by the notion of a humankind that spans current and future generations. This book, with a foreword by Roger Brownsword, is the first systematic examination of how the rights of the unborn and future generations are handled in common law and under international legal instruments. It provides comprehensive coverage of the arguments over international legal instruments, key legal cases and examples including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, industrial disasters, clean water provision, diet, HIV/AIDS, environmental racism and climate change. Also covered are international agreements and objectives as diverse as the Kyoto Protocol, the Millennium Development Goals and international trade. The result is the most controversial and thorough examination to date of the subject and the enormous ramifications and challenges it poses to every aspect of international and domestic environmental, human rights, trade and public health law and policy.

An intellectually stimulating contribution to exploring the complex interface between eco-biological integrity and indigenous identity in the era of globalization.' Gaetano Pentassuglia, Liverpool Law School, University of Liverpool, UK 'The timing of Laura Westra's important work couldn't be better in furthering the understanding between environmental degradation and the human rights of indigenous peoples ... Laura's work will no doubt help to connect these crucial dots of the disproportionate negative extended ecological footprint of a globalized economy on the Arctic and its people.' Sheila Watt-Cloutier, OC, Citizen Advocate on Arctic Climate Change, Former Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council and Nobel Peace Prize nominee 2007 'Raphael Lemkin, the man who invented the word 'genocide' (1944), stressed the criminality of 'cultural genocide' of national groups. Laura Westra's book comes as a thought-provoking and well documented step to follow Lemkin's path, as far as the groups today most vulnerable to cultural genocide are concerned.' Tullio Scovazzi, Professor of International Law, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy 'Highly readable, informative, passionate. This volume provides an intellectually stimulating contribution to exploring the complex interface between eco-biological integrity and indigenous identity in the era of globalization, while offering critical insights into international and comparative human rights jurisprudence.' Gaetano Pentassuglia, Liverpool Law School, University of Liverpool, UK 'This book will be of interest to policy makers, academics and students, as well as indigenous peoples all over the world. Its value lies in its providing a significant addition to the legal scholarship that is geared towards better recognising the rights of indigenous peoples.' Journal of Environmental Law  
About the Author Laura Westra is Professor Emerita (Philosophy), University of Windsor, PhD in Law, Osgoode Hall Law School and Adjunct Professor of Social Science, York University, Canada. She is the author of 18 books including Environmental Justice and the Rights of Unborn and Future Generations, published by Earthscan in 2006.