

## Eminent Domain, Colonials, and Native Americans.

Eminent = standing above others in some quality or position

Domain = complete and absolute ownership of land

the right of a government or its agent to expropriate private property for public use, with payment of compensation.

Spiritual abuse / application –

Kingdom Now theology is a branch of **dominion theology** states that although Satan has been in control of the world since the Fall, God is looking for people who will help him take back dominion. Those who yield themselves to the authority of God's apostles and prophets will take control of the kingdoms or governments of this world, and all social institutions.

Eminent Domain - "a tool for sovereign governments to enforce authority—ostensibly for the public good. To Native people, eminent domain typically has meant colonial conquest, in which tribes bear the brunt of the quote unquote progress. So the term obviously means different things to different people depending on which side of the equation you find yourself."

For centuries white European notions of conquering new lands, owning private property, and the taking of land for the “common good” have been at odds with Native American understanding of land, place, and nature as a permanent collective good and integrated into spiritual life. Wilbur Slockish speaks to this dissonance between European legal foundations and Native American perspectives:

"Eminent domain doesn't take into consideration the lifestyle, the food source, especially if you're a native person. And to me, it's an unjust way of taking away our control, or our usage of traditional foods. And that's the way I see eminent domain. It's useful for someone else to take away our food source, our lifestyle, our salmon, roots, berries, deer, what we needed to sustain ourselves. And by doing that with eminent domain, they really took away our independence and made us dependent on government programs."

---

**The Doctrine of Discovery** established a spiritual, political, and legal justification for colonization and seizure of land not inhabited by Christians.

Christian missionaries acted as the "religious arms" of the imperialist powers of Europe

These words were written more than 500 years ago ... any non-Christian people "discovered" by European explorers were to be vanquished and subdued. Direct quote: "Subjugated — and brought to the faith."

The Vatican directives:

Here's an excerpt: "That in our times, especially the Catholic faith and the Christian religion be exalted and be everywhere increased and spread, that the health of souls be cared for, and that barbarous nations be overthrown and brought to the faith itself."

"This is the basis for boarding schools, the basis for genocide. They could do anything they wanted with the people because not only did they own the land, but the people, their labour, everything,"

The Doctrine of Discovery was used by European monarchies, beginning in the mid-fifteenth century, as a means of legitimizing the colonization of lands outside of Europe. It was issued in 1493, the year after Christopher Columbus arrived on the shores of what is now known as North America.

The presiding theory of the time was that Indigenous Peoples, because they were non-Christians, were not human and therefore the land was empty or terra nullius. When Christopher Columbus arrived in 1492, it is estimated that the Americas were actually occupied by 100 million Indigenous Peoples - which is about one fifth of the human race at that time

Another achievement that Columbus is awarded is the spread of Christianity, more specifically, the spread of Catholicism. Coming from a religious nation, King Ferdinand and Queen Elizabeth were in full support of the spread of Catholicism. Many Catholic head figures, including Pope Leo XIII praised Columbus for bringing the truth to the Natives. Although the spread of religion can be seen as a good thing, his actions were harmful towards the Indigenous people. Columbus forced the Natives to convert to Christianity and begin practicing this new religion against

their desires. Who's to say that the Natives wanted to practice Catholicism? In order to advance his personal gains, Columbus disregarded the interest of the Natives and forced them to practice a foreign religion.