

1978-08-09: [PROJET FOX] Nature of the Family & Function of Patrimony.

- I. True community is sustained by the patrimony.
  - A. 1. Individual rights exist only when in the family (*enfants dotés* are excluded)
  2. Propres exist for the sake of reversion (*retrait lignagier*)
  3. Primogeniture has the same function of preserving the family; accomplished by means of title and prerogatives, it must be preserved for the sake of public authority.
  - B. Patrimony is everything in determining well being.
  - C. All the rules in the law, little is left for individual choice.
- II. The nuclear family is propelled by the patrimony.
  - A. 1. Rights of descendants are due to ascendants' gifts (i.e., families see themselves preserved in rivulets, not the main stock.)
  2. *Propres* exist for the sake of perpetuation (reversion occurs only in order to perpetuate another new branch.)
  3. Advantaging can be done when necessary to preserve the glamour of some great family enterprise, or a public office.
  - B. Patrimony is still the most important, but meuble wealth and income increase.
  - C. Rules are in the law, but the major family strategy is opened considerably, the state being permissive.
- III. Rights of the individual.
  - A. 1. Ascendants' rights are null; the nuclear family is focal point.
    - Possibility exists to deprive children as a group of any or every thing.
    - The law dictates how descendants must succeed (if they are allowed to succeed at all). In 99% of the cases, the law rules.
    - In effect, individual descendants are the protected ones.
    - Most new families do perpetuate.
  2. *Propres* become one's own, not the family's.
  3. No advantaging for the family benefit: all descendants have equal rights. Perpetuation of family is the responsibility of every generation, which means every individual.
  - B. Patrimony for the most part is secondary to incomes from work as the source of well-being.
  - C. The state now something of a for, via taxes; protection of family property is a common interest.
  - D. Longer life expectancy means young are in their 50s before they

inherit.