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**Review: Bearing Witness: The Human Rights Case Against Fracking and Climate Change**

Edited by Thomas A. Kerns and Kathleen Dean Moore

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Kerns, Thomas. A. and Moore, Kathleen. Dean, Eds. *Bearing Witness: The Human Rights Case Against Fracking and Climate Change*. Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University Press, 2021. 400 pp. ISBN: 9780870710728, paperback, US\$29.95.

In their new book, *Bearing Witness: The Human Rights Case Against Fracking and Climate Change*, editors Thomas A. Kerns and Kathleen Dean Moore present harrowing excerpts of testimonies, arguments, court documents, and advisory opinions from the landmark Permanent People's Tribunal (PPT) on Human Rights, Fracking, and Climate Change that took place in May 2018. Their meticulously curated volume artfully blends together diverse and moving eyewitness accounts, expert moral and legal testimonies, contextual essays, and advisory opinion summaries to shine a harsh, revealing light on the rampant environmental devastation and human rights and nature rights violations that fracking and other unconventional oil and gas operations have perpetuated for decades in vulnerable communities across the globe.

Starting with a clear and concise preface, Kerns and Moore provide a detailed overview of why they chose to make this book and why the PPT's special session investigating the connections between human rights, nature rights, and environmental destruction caused by fracking was so monumental. It also includes a very helpful "how to use this book" section that skillfully explains the organization of the book and what sections may be the most useful to reference for certain audiences.

Organized into six main sections, the main "meat" of the book features three chapters of curated testimonies, opinions, and court documents presented to the PPT, as well as the hearings and events leading up to it, that provide examples of how fracking and climate change both violate the rights of humans and the rights of nature. The editors reference a variety of international human rights laws, policies, and official declarations to frame the start of each chapter's subsections, along with well-written essays from a

diverse group of experts, leaders, and scientists working in the field of environmental and climate justice. These essays often provide much needed definitional and contextual information that help readers navigate the issues being discussed more comprehensively in each chapter. The book then ends with a section focused on potential remedies, a section featuring multiple excerpts from the Tribunal's full official advisory opinion, and the editors' coda.

While the structure of the book's sections and chapters may sound complex, Kerns and Moore have masterfully organized the information in this volume by utilizing different fonts, formatting techniques, and descriptive titles to make the book very easy to navigate, digest, and understand. The book may seem intimidating for someone that is not a law expert to crack into at first, but it is truly a page-turner almost cover-to-cover. The stories and testimonies that are recounted are gripping, the expert accounts are informative, and the overall organization of each chapter has resulted in a book that flows effortlessly and is truly an engaging read. There is so much that can be learned, felt, and gained for both experts and non-experts in this topic by delving into this book, whether the book is read in its entirety or only certain sections are consulted.

Any reader could find something in this book that will move them, teach them, make them cry, make them laugh, make them feel, or make them reflect about the ongoing climate crisis and the role that fracking and the fossil fuel industry has played in it. It is highly recommended for those interested in environmental law, environmental justice, climate justice, or any individuals interested in learning more about the fossil fuel industry and the unimaginable toll it takes on the environment and on our human rights.

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