Environment & Society Portal

**Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Values (journal)**

# "Immigration and Environment: Settling the Moral Boundaries"

Chapman, Robert L.

Chapman, Robert L. "Immigration and Environment: Settling the Moral Boundaries." *Environmental Values* 9, no. 2 (2000): 189–209. doi:10.3197/096327100129342038 .

Large populations fuelled by immigration have damaging effects on natural environments. Utilitarian approaches to immigration (whether restrictive or permissive) are inadequate, since they fail to draw the appropriate boundaries between people, as are standard rights approaches buttressed by sovereignty concerns because they fail to include critical environmental concerns within their pantheon of rights. A right to a healthy environment is a basic/subsistence right to be enjoyed by everyone, resident and immigrant alike. Current political-economic arrangements reinforced by familiar ethical positions that support property rights and preference satisfaction favours (privileged) residents while directly or indirectly denying basic rights to potential immigrants and should be abandoned and a basic rights procedure adopted.
— Text from The White Horse Press website

All rights reserved. © 2000 The White Horse Press

**Download:**
PDF: https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key_docs/ev_9no.2_chapman_robert_l.pdf

**Related links:**

- Article on the official website
  http://www.erica.demon.co.uk/EV/EV909.html
- The White Horse Press
  http://www.erica.demon.co.uk/

**Websites linked in this text:**

- http://dx.doi.org/10.3197/096327100129342038

Environmental Values (journal) Collection, Multimedia Library, Environment & Society Portal
"Immigration and Environment: Settling the Moral Boundaries"
**Source URL:** http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/5798
**Print date:** 23 November 2026 03:04:03

- http://www.erica.demon.co.uk/EV/EV909.html

Environmental Values (journal) Collection, Multimedia Library, Environment & Society Portal
"Immigration and Environment: Settling the Moral Boundaries"
**Source URL:** http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/5798
**Print date:** 23 November 2026 03:04:03