

Reflection Paper: Environmental Project **Midiam A. Soto**

My visit to The Three Sisters Organic Farm and the Fruit and Spice Park, together with my participation in the Precautionary Principles Conference, without a doubt has changed my total view of our environment .

This great learning experience of my surroundings and how they connect to our environment and especially how they can help contribute to our ecosystem have been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had recently. This has taken me back to the basic roots of my childhood, having been raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which we all know is a Dairy State. Having been raised close to many farms and being able to enjoy one of my family's special summer field trips of going to pick vegetables and enjoying the cattle being raised on the farms. If we were lucky we could even get a chance to ride on the horses. I was lucky enough to have Cherry Trees and Granny Smith Apples in my own backyard. My mother use to grow many vegetables in our garden, like lettuce, tomatoes, green peppers, spices and much more... I was taught to plant them, water them and take good care of them until they were ready to be picked and taken to the kitchen for the preparing of our meals. How could I have forgotten all that I learned during my childhood of crop, harvesting and appreciation of our soil for nourishment and consumption? My parents would also take us every year to our home Country of Puerto Rico, their I was able to enjoy the delicious cultural fruits, such as Mangos, "Quenepas or so called Mamoncillo", Tamarinds, the vegetables like Plantains, Bananas and Yucca. I was able to appreciate the growing of coffee and many cane fields used for making sugar which was one of the main economy resources of Puerto Rico during many years.

This recent rewarding experience besides taking me back to my main roots has made me create a conscientious way of thinking of my environment. All three activities were focused on taking care of our environment to be able to keep our ecosystem. They all have provided me with good ecological knowledge. Clifford Middleton's Hard Seed has a lot to teach to all, here in Florida with his Universal Birthright as the seed of civilization. We either have no knowledge or are naive to this great wealth or are we so involved in this Industrial Economy that we sadly have forgotten of our ancestors from the Second World War. They grew most of the food eaten at home in their own back yards. I totally agree with Cliff when he says "we have so many jobs now in the city that we neither have the time nor space to grow much of anything", this is our so called Famous Industrialization. Hard Seed's wealth of accumulation of resources coming from the earth is a wonderful concept. We have to find a way to convince our Government that we have to go back in some way to our "Agribiz" Economy and stop developing this never ending Industrial Economy, that is only destroying our ecosystem and separating our families. The new Generation today is taught to get well educated and practically obligated to go out into this competitive slavery world to be able to cope with this harmful Industrial Economy.

We need to incorporate much more than we have in our current Educational Systems, of teaching our children how to take care of our environment in order to preserve our ecosystem. We need to educate them to make "Clifford's Power of Agreement with the Earth." I believe with the development of this Agreement and cautious and careful detailing of all entailed we can find "Clifford Middleton's new beginning, a renewed moral and social foundation, built on equality and common survival". I do not agree

much with his concept of hemp, or more his opinion of how it should be managed. But I would enforce to create some type of new Infrastructure for Future Construction Developments so we can avoid flushing down the toilets our drinking water. Water that is so greatly needed to help avoid our serious droughts throughout the U. S., affecting us today Clifford has a very important point; this could be a possible alternative to preserve our main source..

The Food and Spice Park with their tropical Paradise surrounded by thousands of acres of tropical agriculture was nice to visit. They share the same concept as Clifford Middleton. . It's incredible how they will be able to motivate visitors by demonstrating that we can harvest and grow fruits and spices from all over the world, starting in South America and ending in Africa all here on Florida soil. This is incredible to see and learn. The concept of Legal Condition for Earth Survival handout is very similar to Clifton Middleton also, "The primary supposition here is that the interdependence of every mode of being on every other mode of being requires humans to recognize that every being has rights derived from existence itself". We are back on earth with our feet on soil that must be conserved in order to preserve our ecosystem. . I strongly agree that "our Legal System in the United States is supporting exploitation rather than protecting the natural world from destruction by a relentless Industrial Economy". With devastating force, the industrial way of life has invaded every aspect of human existence, including its political, legal, educational, and religious functioning."

Thanks to my reencounter with the real world "Earth.", which happened in the most unexpected way. I can state that I have great hope that the rest of the world will experience the same, sooner or later. Than maybe someday we may incorporate into the

structure of our legal system” the six principles of the legal conditions for earth survival.”

I am happy to see that further development in Environmental laws is taking place and its applications. I am proud to have participated in such an important Conference like “The Precautionary Principles” and to know they are taking place in the world, by the gathering of all professional fields to discuss and research how we can improve our environment. It is very important what was stated in the conference of the Burden of Proof. The burden should no longer be on the Government to take a chemical or pesticide off the market, after this product having harmed lives of human beings. It is sad to hear that we have to still further research to accomplish the discontinuance of such product. The burden must be put on the Manufacturing Corporations that have the guts of creating a product that would harm any human being or species on earth. This burden must be put on any entity that could possibly think they can get away with such a crime. I am happy to see treaties like the Kyoto Protocol being discussed and agreed through out the world to try to save our environment. Though I must say that they must amend the treaty because we live in an ever changing world and if there are drastic changes which create the need to amend or incorporate new procedures or guidelines, they must be done. It could be with these amendments the U.S. and other countries can join and become part of the treaty which is needed so all could have the same interaction for the same goal. My plan of action to help improve the environment is to continue planting my garden, to continue purchasing organic products, to purchase energy saving light bulbs. But most important is to share the wealth of my knowledge and further research and obtain more knowledge of more ways to contribute and continue sharing the wealth. It could be with my share of wealth I am the beginning of the some one else’s encounter or reencounter

with earth and they can also make their Agreement that I so well learned with Clifton
Middleton.