

Are Human Rights Absolute or Conditional?

Rights are Conditional Upon Obeying the Law

In current human rights law , the rights of any person to life liberty and property can only be removed if they are proven to have committed a crime and are found to be guilty before an unbiased jury.

So human rights **are NOT absolute** but conditional upon obedience to the law. Consequently committing a crime can deprive a person of liberty.

Rights Always Come With Responsibilities

So rights always come with responsibilities. A question then arises as to our responsibility towards our fellow humans and also towards other animals and the environment.

These responsibilities are defined by our laws, and the broader principles of **“First Do No Harm”** , and **“Avoid Causing Unnecessary Suffering”**.

We can derogate our own rights if we violate the rights of other creatures – by causing unnecessary suffering. Conversely by upholding their rights we protect our own.

Assertion of constitutional rights should therefore also embody an assertion of true responsibilities towards other creatures and towards God. Otherwise, rights become just an assertion of selfishness.

RIGHTS means RESPONSIBILITIES

Towards other people

Towards other species

Towards the earth

Towards God