

Slavery The author begins his discussion of slavery with the statement that "no man has any natural authority over his fellows," adding that force as an imposition of an unnatural authority is contrary to human nature. He cites two examples to support this premise. First, he asserts that national or social tranquillity imposed by a despot or tyrant is in fact a source of misery and suffering, and that people living under the authority of such a man who find their experience peaceful are, in fact, spiritually as well as physically enslaved. "To renounce our liberty," he says, "is to renounce our quality of man, and with it all the rights and duties of humanity."