

## **True Freedom & Homesteading?**

Homesteading, in its simplest form, is a race for freedom and away from oppression. Looking back in history, people left where they were for the chance of something better somewhere else. These journeys differed in place and time, type of oppression, and types of people but each pioneer required the same few traits to make their break for freedom.

- 1). **Hope** without any guarantee of success.
  - \* It will keep you warm when you need it.
- 2). **Courage** in the face of overwhelming negative odds.
  - \* Failure is an option but one no one likes.
- 3). **Strong** belief in themselves and the group they are with.
  - \* Being arrogant enough to think you can really pull this stunt off.
- 4). **Knowledge** about how things work and the **streets smarts** to use the knowledge correctly.
  - \* Being smart is good. Knowing how to use those smarts will save your ass.
- 5). **Self-reliance**. It's all on you and you crew.
  - \* Coming to terms with these two facts.
    - a) You really can't do everything yourself and make it.
    - b) Finding people to go forward with is just about impossible.
- 6). Always **monitoring and adjusting** to see if things are working and how well things are working and be ready to change with no notice.
  - \* Change is a fact of life. Embrace it!!
- 7). A **balance** between mercy and brutality.
  - \* Mother-nature loves everybody that's why there are so many different condiments to make the taste so good.

As in the past when the Spanish hit the Aztecs there is no free land left in the world. Somebody owns every piece of dirt. How does a modern homesteader deal with this? Well not the same way as the past. Burning, raping, pillaging will not win you friends or influence people or at least not in a good way.

So the next questions people ask me, "Is there a reason to homestead anymore? There's no oppression here and we are free to do as we want. So what's the deal?"

To this I always reply, "Then why are you at a job that frustrates you and doesn't honor who you are as a being of light. If you were really free would you walk into that job in the morning and submit to that?"

"I got to pay my bills. Take care of my family. That's just the way it is." The response I always get back. These people are not free. They are slaves to a system where debt is the master. They must go and get their food from a store where most use to pay with credit. The food its self was often suspect. "Organic" foods, which are suppose to be so much better for you and yours, were way more expensive than there non organic counterparts. Therefore, if you wanted your family to eat well you had spend more money putting you more in debt. Their clothing had to be from a store that was well thought of. A hand bag couldn't cost less \$100.00

or it just wasn't up to snuff. More debt to prove their worthiness to themselves, family, friends, co-workers, when does it end? When are you worthy enough? The car they drove was huge and used more gas than their parents' land yacht. Debt on top of debt. They had said they could pay for all of this so now they are at a job that does not let them be them and the stress is literally shortening our lives.

Urban homesteaders understand this concept and reject it out of hand. As the homesteaders of old, they have a ruff and ready attitude towards survival. But unlike past waves of homesteading, where the current occupants of the land were removed by superior fire power, today's pioneers take a different approach. They use the land they buy, no matter how small it is, and make it work for them. They have the courage to say I will be different than my peers. They stay out of debt at all cost. They produce as much of their own food as possible and get the rest of it from other like-minded people. They create as much of the power as they can, using many different methods. They reuse their trash and recycle the rest. They seek out and communicate with each other and have a free flow of ideas to improve their lives, the lives of their neighbors and the world, even if they are ridiculed and shunned by others. They don't subscribe to guilt of any kind. The latest, greatest only interests them if it's saving the world in a holistic way. These people are willing to look underneath the hood, make severe sacrifices for their own happiness. They make themselves the most important thing in their lives.

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