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## **How Americas First Settlers Invented Chattel Slavery: Dehumanizing Native Americans and Africans with Language, Laws, Guns, and Religion (Berkeley Insights in Linguistics and Semiotics)**

*David K. O'Rourke*

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**David K. O'Rourke : How Americas First Settlers Invented Chattel Slavery: Dehumanizing Native Americans and Africans with Language, Laws, Guns, and Religion (Berkeley Insights in Linguistics and Semiotics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How Americas First Settlers Invented Chattel Slavery: Dehumanizing Native Americans and Africans with Language, Laws, Guns, and Religion

(Berkeley Insights in Linguistics and Semiotics):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One of the few to dig so deep into this dark chapter. By TODD PRATUMI tried to get a copy from the author when I met him by chance at my stillborn bookshop in Point Richmond, now I see why he couldn't get me one, its published by Peter Lang! That means it will never enter a bookshop, not that many shops would want to carry a book like this. But now that I do have a copy, (the purchase inspired by the Pope's imminent canonization of Serra) I wish I had read it earlier. I was first initiated into this dar subject by reading Beard and Carranco's Genocide Vendetta, but this book goes much deeper into the Native holocaust and its theological and cultural sources. I can't recommend it higher. Very few books dig this deep and are so unafraid to lay blame where it belongs. What is the Pope thinking?

From New England and Virginia to New Spain and the current Southwest, North Americas founding householders English and Spanish alike took the limited European practice of coerced labor and, over the course of two hundred years, transformed it into a depersonalized and brutal chattel slavery unlike anything that had existed in Europe. What system of language and logic, what visions of religious and civil society, allowed men who saw themselves both as Christians and cultured humanists to dehumanize and enslave people whose cultures and accomplishments were evident to nearly all? In this book we observe the progressive development of a mindset that allowed the settlers to see both Native Americans and Africans as others who did not merit human status.

About the AuthorThe Author: Theologian, editor, and essayist David K. ORourke writes extensively in the area of cultural history with an emphasis on religion. Among his books are Demons by Definition: Social Idealism, Religious Nationalism, and the Demonizing of Dissent (Peter Lang, 1998); A Process of Conversion (1985); and The Holy Land as Jesus Knew It (1983). In addition to his AB from Yale, David ORourke has received the theological degrees S.T.Lic. and S.T.Lr. He is Senior Fellow at the Santa Fe Institute in Berkeley, California.