

OVERVIEW AND OPENING ARGUMENTS

MAY 14, 2018 10:00-11:00

MS. REVEL POINTON: Good morning. It's a pleasure to present to you today for the first day of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal on Human Rights Issues Around Fracking and Climate Change.

My name is Revel Pointon and I'm a solicitor here in Australia specializing in environmental law. I work for the Australian Legal Center Environmental the Defenders' Office who provides legal assistance to community to help them understand and use their rights effectively to protect their lands, their well-being and the environment that they care about.

And I'm joined here today by co-lead attorney Dr. Evan Hamman.

DR. EVAN HAMMAN: Thanks Revel.

So my name is Evan Hamman. I'm an environmental lawyer and law academic here located in Queensland, Australia. I write about environmental law including coal seam gas and land use activities in Australia. And Revel and I have worked in the past for NGOs and communities that are seeking to protect rights in relation to the environment.

So this week you're going to hear a lot about TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 human rights, both procedural and substantive human
2 rights and whether the extraction of gas and the
3 practices of fracking are impacting upon those human
4 rights.

5 We'd like you to consider the words of the
6 Universal Declaration Of Human Rights, Article 1, which
7 said almost 70-years ago today, all human beings are
8 born free and equal in dignity and rights. They're
9 endowed with reason and conscience and should act
10 towards one another in the spirit of brotherhood.

11 So we'd like you and the participants in this
12 Tribunal to keep these words in mind as you progress
13 through the week. By virtue of the fact that we have
14 both reason and conscience we should be able to make
15 decisions as human beings that respect each other as
16 well as the environment that we live in.

17 In addition to human rights the other
18 important factor this week which will be considered is
19 the rights to nature.

20 So several years ago the late Thomas Berry,
21 who is one of the founding fathers of the Rights Of
22 Nature Movement said as follows. "We see quite clearly
23 that what happens to the non-human also happens to the
24 human. What happens to the outer world happens to the
25 inner world. And if the outer world is diminished in
TREMINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 its grandeur then the emotional, imaginative and
2 intellectual, spiritual life of a human is also
3 diminished or extinguished.

4 'Without the soaring birds, the great forest,
5 the sounds and coloration of the insects, the free
6 flowing springs, the flowering fields and the sight of
7 clouds by day and stars at night we become impoverished
8 in all that makes us human.".

9 So there is a deep connection between human
10 rights and rights of nature. We would like you to
11 remember this also throughout the week.

12 Finally many indigenous communities have
13 always understood this connection between human rights
14 and the operation of the natural world. Their rights
15 need particular consideration and the extraction of
16 fracking or the extraction of gas and the practices of
17 fracking can have severe impacts on their cultural ties.

18 MS. REVEL POINTON: In our opening
19 statement today we'll be going through some of the key
20 concepts and terms that the Tribunal should be aware of
21 when listening to the testimonials put before them.

22 We'll also be looking at some background
23 documents around each of the key issues to help you in
24 your deliberations and an overview of what you should
25 expect to hear this week.

1 We urge the Tribunal to keep in mind the words
2 that we commence with, that by virtue of humans having
3 reasons and conscience we have an obligation to better
4 our humanity as well as the earth we rely on. And that
5 includes the making decisions about where and how the
6 extractive industry should be allowed to be undetected
7 on our earth.

8 The Tribunal's purpose is to create a forum
9 for reasoned moral debate around issues of importance to
10 our society and our environment today. We are here to
11 provide a space for those members of civil society and
12 those members of our planet that don't often have the
13 ability to have their voices and issues heard in the
14 decisions that most affect them.

15 So we look forward to the input of civil
16 society and the expertise of the various stakeholders we
17 have in this Tribunal this week and look forward to the
18 recommendations of the Tribunal.

19 Thanks very much.

20 DR. EVAN HAMMAN: Thank you.

21 [This is the opening statement from Dr. Evan
22 Hamman and Ms. Revel Pointon. They are lawyers in
23 Australia who have been asked to be co-lead
24 attorneys for the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal on
25 Human Rights and Fracking and Climate Change.]

TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 DR. EVAN HAMMAN: In recent years fracking
2 and the extraction of unconventional gas and oil from
3 beneath the ground, including beneath the ocean, has
4 caused considerable angst for communities across the
5 globe.

6 The science on which fracking is based is
7 shaky at best. The industry, governments and
8 communities are often left in the dark as to the
9 environmental, social and economic risks that fracking
10 and the extraction of unconventional oil and gas can
11 cause on our livelihoods.

12 The uncertainty around fracking and
13 misunderstandings around the science cause considerable
14 angst amongst communities and it's understandable that
15 protests and community outrage have occurred in places
16 as far afield as Australia, the United States, the
17 United Kingdom and the other parts of the world.

18 A large part of the problem is that we simply
19 don't know the extent of the risk and the extent of the
20 impacts of fracking and the extraction of oil and gas on
21 a mass scale are having in our communities and the
22 environment.

23 Fracking is often associated with other
24 infrastructures as well, including pipelines, processing
25 plants, port developments and increased development of
TREMINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 the fossil fuel industry more generally.

2 One the most precious resources that we have
3 is water, both for drinking and for agriculture but also
4 for the environment. Fracking can cause unacceptable
5 risk to water supply including the contamination of
6 underground aquifers.

7 Recent experience has also showed that
8 fracking can impact upon geological formations beneath
9 the ground and even have a risk toward seismic
10 activities such as earthquakes.

11 The process of fracking, or otherwise called
12 hydraulic fracturing, involves injecting water with high
13 pressure and sometimes chemicals down into the rock
14 formations in order to release the gas. Its commonly
15 used, types of gas, like shale gas and sometimes for
16 coal seam gas which is also known as coal bed methane
17 where the gas is tightly held within the coal seams.

18 The major environmental risks associated with
19 fracking include contamination of the aquifers beneath
20 the ground, contamination of ground surface water, the
21 possibility that gas can escape and ignite and also the
22 possibility that the salty water which comes up from the
23 ground can impact upon the local cropping and land.

24 When the gas is released as a result of
25 reduction in the pressure there is often a large amount
TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 of water which also comes to the surface. This water is
2 often incredibly salty and at times is stored in large
3 evaporation dams which is unsuitable for drinking or for
4 irrigation.

5 Associated infrastructure can also pose risks
6 to the environment and surrounding communities. The gas
7 often needs to be transported many hundreds of
8 kilometers to a place where it can be used for fuel
9 generation or for export. Clearing of vegetation,
10 laying of pipelines, possibility of erosion from this
11 can also cause impacts on communities and the local
12 environment.

13 In places like Australia an associated
14 development, which is liquefied natural gas processing
15 facilities, are being built on the coast of Australia in
16 order to ship a lot of the gas to overseas markets. In
17 some of these cases the processing facilities are being
18 built in world heritage areas, for example, Australia's
19 Great Barrier Reef.

20 It should not be forgotten that there are also
21 considerable risks to those people working with and
22 alongside gas and oil extraction activities. In
23 developing countries the regulatory frameworks and rules
24 of occupational health and safety are often

25 undeveloped. This can cause significance human rights
TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 concerns for those people working on those projects.

2 Finally we shouldn't forget that fossil fuels,
3 including gas, including oil, beneath the surface of the
4 ground are also contributing to increased levels of
5 greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

6 We have a responsibility for future
7 generations to keep the climate at a stable level.

8 Although gas is often touted as something which is far
9 less dangerous than coal with around 50% of the
10 emissions still, nonetheless, a fossil fuel and the
11 extraction of the gas along with the associated
12 infrastructure still contributing to climate change in a
13 negative way.

14 MS. REVEL POINTON: During this week as
15 judges you have been asked to apply the standards of
16 International Human Rights Law and render an advisory
17 opinion on the following four fundamental legal
18 questions.

19 (1) Under what circumstances do fracking and
20 other unconventional oil and gas extraction techniques
21 breach substantive and procedural human rights protected
22 by international law, as a matter of treaty or custom?

23 (2) Under what circumstances do fracking and
24 other unconventional oil and gas extraction techniques
25 warrant the issuance of either provisional measures, a
TREMINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 judgment enjoining further activity, remediation relief
2 or damages for causing environmental harm?

3 (3) What is the extent of responsibility and
4 liability of states and non-state actors for violations
5 of human rights and for environmental and climate harm
6 caused by these oil and gas extraction techniques.

7 (4) What is the extent of responsibility and
8 liability of states and non-state actors, both legal and
9 moral, for violations of the rights of nature related to
10 environmental and climate harm caused by these
11 unconventional oil and gas extraction techniques?

12 Fracking has a wide range of impacts.
13 Therefore, the issues have been broken into six sub-
14 cases through which the prosecution will be arguing.

15 Firstly, the human health case will address
16 the human rights dimensions of adverse impacts on all
17 dimensions of human, physical and mental health.

18 The climate impacts case will address all the
19 human rights and earth rights dimensions for both
20 present and future generations of fracking and climate
21 change including of governments' continued subsidizing
22 of fossil fuels.

23 The environmental, ecosystem, hydrologic and
24 seismicity cases will address the human rights and earth
25 rights dimensions of adverse environmental ecosystem and
TREMINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 wildlife impacts as well impacts on air, surface water,
2 ground water and earthquakes.

3 The public participation case will include the
4 human rights dimensions of public participation, or the
5 lack thereof, in decision making about unconventional
6 oil and gas exploration, extraction and policy making.

7 The fuels infrastructure case will address the
8 human rights and earth rights dimensions of exploration,
9 drilling, fracking, extraction and delivery processes as
10 well as of the infrastructure needed for transport,
11 storage and exported products and waste generally.

12 For example, pipelines, storage facilities,
13 waste treatments facilities, waste water disposal, LNG
14 terminals, compressor stations, et cetera.

15 Finally the social costs case will address the
16 human rights dimensions of social and cultural impacts
17 on individuals, families and communities.

18 As set out by Tom Kerns in his 2017 article,
19 An International Tribunal on the Human Rights Impacts of
20 Fracking, Structural Grounding and Purposes, the
21 following legal test should be applied by the Tribunal
22 in hearing the evidence and developing any
23 recommendations in your decision. These tests are
24 representative of those of a human rights court.

25 As to the question of standing every
TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 individual person is considered to have legal standing
2 in international human rights courts. Therefore, there
3 is no restriction as to who could be before the
4 Tribunal.

5 As to standards of proof needing to be tested,
6 standards of proof in international human rights courts
7 favor the plaintiff over the state to balance the fact
8 that the plaintiffs are often disadvantaged in the
9 evidence they can access to support their case.

10 As to the burden of proof, the burden of proof
11 in human rights courts is on the state, in such an
12 action, rather than on the plaintiff even though the
13 state would be the defendant normally.

14 We will now provide a background as to where
15 human rights norms can be found that can be applied by
16 the Tribunal.

17 Human rights norms can be found in a variety
18 of international human rights instruments including
19 those comprising the International Bill of Rights, being
20 the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, The
21 International Convention on Civil and Political Rights,
22 The International Convention on Social, Economic and
23 Cultural Rights.

24 Human rights can also be found and provided
25 for through state or regional constitutions, charters or
TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 laws.

2 Human rights can be substantive rights. For
3 example, the rights to life, liberty, law or reputation
4 consider to exist for its own sake and to constitute
5 part of the normal legal order of society.

6 Or they can be procedural rights which are
7 rights that exist to provide a means to enforce
8 substantive rights through legal and governance
9 processes.

10 Examples of substantive human rights that are
11 likely to be raised before the Tribunal this week
12 include the right to life. The right to the enjoyment
13 of the highest attainable standard of physical and
14 mental health. The right to a healthy environment.
15 Right of self-determination. The right for indigenous
16 peoples to enjoy their own culture. And the right to
17 safe and healthy working conditions.

18 Examples of procedural human rights that may
19 be raised before the Tribunal this week include the
20 right to an effective legal remedy. The right to access
21 information and public participation. The right to
22 equal access to the public service. The right to equal
23 protection of the law. And the right to legal
24 protection against arbitrary or unlawful interference
25 with privacy and family in the home.

1 The main focus of the PPT is on human rights
2 as a Human Rights Tribunal. However, time will also be
3 given to consider the rights of nature itself through a
4 full day of the Tribunal's hearings. The rights of
5 nature, or earth jurisprudence, recognizes that our
6 earth or environmental values or ecosystems also have
7 inherent rights which should be recognized and honored,
8 just as we honor the rights of human.

9 We recognize the holistic systems of our
10 planet that all ecosystems on earth are now very deeply
11 intertwined and therefore what is good for human beings
12 must also been balanced against what is good for other
13 species and what is good for the whole planet.

14 While there is a human right to a healthy
15 environment the case addressing fracking's impact on
16 ecosystems will be argue primarily from the earth
17 charter perspective that all beings are interdependent
18 and every form of life has value, regardless of its
19 worth to human beings.

20 Some constitutions also include reference to
21 the rights of nature. This is not a new concept for
22 many indigenous cultures around the world for whom the
23 rights of nature are embedded into their world views and
24 traditions of living in harmony with nature and with
25 acknowledgment of the deep connection between all life.

TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 For the purposes of the Tribunal the rights of
2 nature features such as water resources, rivers, ground
3 water basins, et cetera, and ecosystems that depend on
4 will be considered and investigated amongst other
5 things.

6 There are a variety of documents that we
7 recommend to the Tribunal for providing a helpful
8 background to key matters that may assist the Tribunal's
9 deliberations. A Compendium of Scientific, Medical and
10 Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking
11 around unconventional gas and oil extraction has been
12 produced by the Physicians for Social Responsibility and
13 Concerned Health Professional of New York. This is the
14 5th edition and was produced in March of this year.

15 The compendium provides a compilation of
16 several hundred scientific, medical and media findings
17 that detail evidence for the risks and harms associated
18 with fracking. The compendium focuses on topics most
19 closely related to the public health and safety impacts
20 on unconventional gas and oil drilling and fracking.

21 The Fifth Assessment Report by the
22 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2013 and
23 the expected forthcoming updates for 2018-2019 can
24 provide a useful reference point for climate change
25 related issues to do with unconventional gas and oil.

1 The IPCC set up in 1988 is a highly respected
2 and renowned international body set up by the world
3 metrological organization and the United Nations
4 Environment Program. It was set up to assess the
5 science related to climate change to provide
6 policymakers with regular assessments of the scientific
7 basis of climate change, its impact of future risks and
8 options for adaptation and mitigation.

9 Their assessment reports present projections
10 of future climate change based on different scenarios
11 and the risk that climate change poses and discusses the
12 implications of response options.

13 We would now like to introduce the Tribunal to
14 various documents that provide helpful background to the
15 human rights norms and laws as related to the issues and
16 consideration by the tribunal.

17 Firstly, the Declaration On Human Rights And
18 Climate Change produced by the Global Network for the
19 Study of Human Rights and the Environment in May 2016
20 provides a useful overview of agreed human rights issues
21 arising from climate change.

22 Two human rights assessments have been
23 undertaken in New York in 2011 and in the UK in 2014
24 which looked directly at the human rights issues arising
25 from fracking for natural gas and other unconventional
TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 gas developments. These are sure to be of use to the
2 Tribunal in their deliberations given their relevance to
3 the topic in question.

4 UN Special Reporteur on Human Rights and the
5 Environment, John Knox, has produced a report of his
6 five years of working in this role, Framework Principles
7 on Human Rights and the Environment: The main human
8 rights obligations related to the enjoyment of a safe,
9 clean healthy and sustainable environment. A very
10 useful report indeed.

11 Sister Aine O'Connor from the Mercy Global
12 Action Group has produced a rights-based guide to
13 advocacy directly on human rights law and fracking. The
14 guide aims to contribute to the debate on fracking by
15 outlining how international human rights law can empower
16 and reposition people in communities as rights holders
17 providing an extensive overview of accountability
18 mechanisms to address threats of harm from fracking.

19 Further helpful background documents for the
20 Tribunal include an outline of indigenous rights issues
21 provided in the indigenous peoples afro-descendant
22 communities and natural resources, human rights
23 protection in the context of extraction, exploitation
24 and development activities report by the Inter-American
25 Commission on Human Rights produced in 2015.

1 An overview has been given of rights of nature
2 issues in fighting for our shared future, protecting
3 both human rights and nature's rights in the 2016 update
4 produced by the Earth Law Center. Also the United
5 Nations Tool Kit on the Right to Health may be helpful
6 for the Tribunal.

7 We will now provide an overview of the
8 testimony and evidence that will be put before the
9 Tribunal in the coming week.

10 For the rest of day you will hear about
11 various pre-tribunals that have been held in preparation
12 for this Tribunal hearing.

13 Firstly, you'll here from Rick Sahli who will
14 present on the pre-tribunals held in Athens and
15 Youngstown, Ohio in the summer of 2017.

16 These tribunals were held in an effort to
17 gather and correlate data to submit to the UN Human
18 Rights Council charging the State of Ohio and the US
19 federal government with human rights violations through
20 their unchecked allowance of the oil and gas industry to
21 operate when their actions are directly infringing upon
22 the citizens rights, health and the environment.

23 You will then hear from Shay Dougall and
24 Benedict Coyne of Australia who will be presenting on
25 outcomes and issues raised in the Australian pre-
TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 tribunal.

2 On Tuesday the morning will start with
3 presentations on the Rights of Nature by the Earth Law
4 Alliance's, Lisa Mead. The submissions around Rights Of
5 Nature will be arguing the unconventional oil and gas
6 extraction violates the rights of nature to exist,
7 thrive, regenerate and evolve and that both state and
8 non-state actors are responsible, accountable and liable
9 for these violations.

10 Whereas other submissions and testimonials
11 before the Tribunal will be focusing on the human rights
12 and impacts of climate change and fracking these
13 submissions will focus mainly on the harms to nature and
14 climate.

15 Nathalie Eddy and Bruce Baizel will then
16 provide presentations from Earth Works who work closely
17 with communities directly impacted by fracking and oil
18 and gas extraction in the United States.

19 In their submissions they will focus on the
20 first two questions at the fore. They will argue that
21 the precautionary principle needs better and stronger
22 application in current and future gas and oil
23 development, and that the burden of proof should be
24 shifted to the industry to demonstrate whether harm is
25 being caused.

1 After lunch you will hear from Robin Bronen
2 who will provide testimony as to climate forced
3 migration in Alaska. Robin will present on the demand
4 for and difficulty in climate forced communities
5 relocation, arguing that the continued increase in
6 greenhouse emissions is forcing those who have least
7 contributed to the climate crisis to make the extremely
8 difficult decision to leave the homes where they have
9 lived for millennia.

10 Robin will be followed by Ceal Smith and
11 Eunice Brower from Alaska Climate Action Network who
12 will continue consideration of issues in Alaska from
13 fracking in the native village of Nuiqsut.

14 Raymond Cusson, representing the issues
15 arising from hydraulic fracturing on the west coast of
16 Newfoundland, Canada, has unfortunately had to cancel
17 his personal testimony to the Tribunal this week but his
18 written submissions stand and we encourage the judges to
19 review these important submissions.

20 Raymond does have insight as into how small
21 communities in the oil dependent Canadian province of
22 Newfoundland and Labrador organized community resistance
23 to fracking in an attempt to protect their communities,
24 their human rights and the increased potential impacts
25 on climate change.

1 You will then hear from Amanda Kennedy from
2 Australia who will be presenting on issues around
3 Australian state and federal laws regulating
4 unconventional gas and oil extraction from the
5 perspective of procedural human rights.

6 You will then hear from Lakshmi Fjord and
7 Irene Leech who will be presenting on the
8 Charlottesville peoples pre-tribunal in Virginia U.S.A.

9 In October 2017 a day long tribunal was held
10 to collect testimonies about the human and environmental
11 impacts of two interstate fracked gas pipelines already
12 under construction through parts of Virginia, West
13 Virginia and North Carolina.

14 This will be followed by Andy Gheorghiu
15 presenting from Food And Water Watch and Food And Water
16 Europe.

17 After lunch Dr. Michelle Maloney of the
18 Australian Earth Law Alliance will present further on
19 the rights of nature. Michelle will continue to present
20 on the need for rights of nature and not just human
21 rights to be better protected from the impacts of the
22 unconventional gas industry.

23 Declan Doherty, also from Australia's
24 Environmental Defender's Office in Western Australia,
25 will present submissions from the experience of WA where
TREMINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 an inquiry has been commissioned by the WA government to
2 investigate the risks of fracking. This is ongoing.

3 Declan will focus on the first legal question
4 being the circumstances in which fracking activities and
5 the risk they pose to the natural environment, health,
6 communities and aboriginal heritage breach substantive
7 and procedural human rights protected by international
8 law.

9 Vanessa Brown from Vermont 350 will end the
10 day with some discussion around philosophies of Druids
11 and unconventional oil and gas, amongst other
12 submissions.

13 350 Vermont is a non-profit organization that
14 organizes, educates and supports people in Vermont to
15 work together towards climate justice, resisting fossil
16 fuels, building momentum for alternatives and
17 transforming our communities toward justice and
18 resilience.

19 On Thursday Simona Perry will start by
20 presenting her field research, being evidence also
21 submitted on behalf of local communities and families
22 across the USA over nine years. These families have had
23 their human rights violated as a result of fracking and
24 other unconventional oil and gas developments, including
25 infrastructure developments and associated climate
TREMINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 change impacts.

2 Over the past nine years social, environmental
3 and community health scientists have been closely
4 documenting the consequences of these activities on
5 local communities through various scientific
6 perspectives which Simona will present on.

7 This will be followed by Megan Hunter
8 presenting on the Fresh Water Accountability Project, a
9 nonprofit organization with a mission to preserve and
10 protect fresh water supplies through education and
11 community action. And it's dedicated to promoting
12 health and well-being while protecting the environment.

13 Since its origins Freshwater has served as a
14 community advocate helping individuals and communities
15 impacted by fracking to organize, educate and
16 participate in environmental decisions that effect them.

17 Allie Rosenbluth, who represents Rogue Climate
18 based in Jackson County in Southern Oregon, Rogue
19 Climate works in the many of the rural communities
20 impacted by the proposed Pacific Connector Fracked Gas
21 Pipeline and Jordon Cove LNG export terminal.

22 Jody McCaffree will follow with a presentation
23 also on Jordon Cove with the Citizen Environmental and
24 Human Rights Assessment of exporting hydraulic fractured
25 gas.

1 Daniel Taillant will follow from the Center
2 for Human Rights and the Environment on the issues of
3 human rights violations and climate change, inducing
4 invisible methane and deadly volatile organic compounds
5 and other pollutants emitted by the oil and gas sector,
6 which can be identified with infrared technology.

7 The afternoon will then provide time for
8 attorneys and judges to answer questions posed by the
9 judges and to engage in general discussion.

10 On Friday the morning will start with Maura
11 Stephens providing testimony from Coalition To Protect
12 New York. The coalition formed in 2010 by a group of
13 central New York individuals in grassroots organizations
14 in response to the growing threat of unconventional
15 shale gas activities to the health, environment,
16 communities and ways of life.

17 Maura's submissions discuss the evolution of
18 community understanding, concern and activation in
19 response to the issues they were facing from increasing
20 unconventional gas activities being proposed around
21 them.

22 I will then return to appear before you to
23 present closing submissions for the Tribunal. As judges
24 you will then have the opportunity to consider and
25 provide any recommendations and/or statements that you
TREMAINE & CLEMENS, INC. EUGENE, OREGON (541)343-8833

1 might choose to offer in resolution of this Permanent
2 Peoples' Tribunal hearing.

3 DR. EVAN HAMMAN: This concludes our
4 opening address. Revel and I were greatly honored to be
5 able to provide this information to you and thank you
6 for listening.

7 We would like to finish with the words of
8 Article 1 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of
9 Human Rights. This is a point where we first started.

10 All human beings are born free and equal.
11 They are endowed with reason and conscience. They are,
12 therefore, able to reason through logical arguments and
13 also share compassion to our fellow human beings, those
14 in the environment that we rely on for survival, and
15 hope that you take these words through with you
16 throughout the week.

17 Thank you.

18

19 [youtube.com/watch?v=wS8GQqJJyvo]

20

21

22

23

24

25