

On Ideas

Ideas are not ownable. Ownability *requires* scarcity (rivalrousness). There is exactly zero possibility of physical conflict over the use of ideas because everybody in the universe can use an idea simultaneously without physically interfering with anybody else's use. (We can all use the color red, or the English language, or the schematics of a toaster, etc., *at the same time*.) Trying to apply ownership to the unownable requires the redistribution of property rights from owners to non-owners. Calling ideas "property" is illogical and irrational. Only scarce, physical things can be property, can be the subject of law (force), otherwise you could enforce laws against ideas, which is obviously an absurd claim to make. And that's today's two cents.