

Probably it may seem too absurd to those who are willing to take this subject into their consideration to inquire, whether it is the business of a Legislator, to be able to point out by what means a State may govern and tyrannize over its neighbours, whether they will, or will not: for how can that belong either to the Politician or Legislator which is unlawful? for that cannot be lawful, which is done not only justly, but unjustly also: for a conquest may be unjustly made. But we see nothing of this in the Arts: for it is the business neither of the Physician, or the Pilot to use either persuasion or force, the one to his Patients, the other to his Passengers: and yet many seem to think a Despotic Government is a Political one, and what they would not allow to be just, or proper, if exercised over themselves, they will not blush to exercise over others; for they endeavour to be wisely governed themselves, but think it of no consequence whether others are so or not: but a despotic power is absurd, except only where Nature has framed the one party for dominion, the other for subordination; and therefore no one ought to assume it over all in general, but those only which are the proper objects thereof: thus no one should hunt men either for food or sacrifice, but what is fit for those purposes, and these are wild animals which are eatable.