

How well do you know the Catholic faith? Well, let's find out..."

What does the Church say about theft? What is theft, and what falls under the Seventh Commandment?

- A) The Church doesn't talk about theft. Everything belongs to the community means everyone is the owner of everything.
- B) Theft is the unlawful appropriation of goods belonging to another.
- C) Theft is not just sharing with others somebody's goods.

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I had a coffee with my non Catholic friends and this question came up: Why is there no absolute right to private property?

- A) There is an absolute right to private property because God created the earth and its goods for all mankind.
- B) There is no absolute right to private property because God created the earth and its goods for all mankind. (CCC 2402-2406, 2452)**
Before parts of created reality can "belong" to individuals, because they have been obtained legally, inherited, or received as gifts, these owners must know that there is no property without social obligation. At the same time, the Church contradicts those who conclude from the social obligation associated with property that there should be no private property and that everything should belong to everybody, or to the State. The private owner who manages, tends, and increases a plot of land in keeping with the Creator's plan and divides the proceeds in such a way that each person gets what is his due is by all means acting according to the divine commission for creation.
- C) There is nothing as such common property. In the world, it is only private property which matters.

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