



Reading *La Terre* as a novel of parricide

Physical and symbolic killings in rural France in the nineteenth century

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [Considérant – Revue du droit imaginé](#)
[2022, n° 4. varia](#)

Author: Delbrel (Sophie)

Abstract: With the publication of *La Terre*, Émile Zola revived the controversy associated with a form of naturalist writing that painted an unenviable picture of rural farm workers. Although the text shocked its readers, it nonetheless reveals personality traits of the writer, who was attached to his roots in the northern French region of Beauce. Above all, the work expresses a fascination for the nourishing earth, portrayed as a mythical goddess, and rejects whatever is associated with her betrayal.

Pages: 143 to 157

Journal: [Journal of Imagined Law](#)

CLIL theme: 3260 -- DROIT -- Droit général

EAN: 9782406129066

ISBN: 978-2-406-12906-6

ISSN: 2729-2177

DOI: 10.48611/isbn.978-2-406-12906-6.p.0143

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 03-09-2022

Periodicity: Annual

Language: French

Keyword: Rougon-Macquart, Zola, La Terre, Fouan, Buteau, naturalism, Hourdequin, naturalist metaphor

[Display online](#)