

PRAGMATIC SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY

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This paper re-examines various social contract theories, describing their contents and validity. The social contract theory is a social-political tool in philosophy to establish what counts as a legitimate government and hinges primarily on the concept of the state of nature. This paper describes the state of nature as a study of the relationship between the people and the state and understanding it as the key to producing a universal theory and then goes on to refute logically the prescriptions of the pre-existing ideas of the state of nature both historically and intellectually. The paper attempts to produce an updated theory by providing a pragmatic view redefinition of government and re-description of the state of nature based on the central concepts of morality and objectivity.