

BOOK REVIEW

C.A MUMMA_MARTINON,(2005) *CONFLICT AND LITIGATION BETWEEN OIL COMPANIES AND VILLAGE COMMUNITIES*.TRANSACTION PUBLISHERS,RUTGERS UNIVERSITY.2005

ABSTRACT

This book, developed out of a doctoral thesis at the Department of Economics, St.Andrews University, UK, analyses the conflicts between oil companies and village communities in the Niger Delta by focusing on litigation. The author defines a village community as the local people affected by oil operations on the ground. Membership of the village community is defined both in terms of physical residence in a village and in terms of subscription to village social norms.

The aims of the book are threefold, first, it aims to study management, secondly, it attempts to provide a detailed analysis of the nature of the disputes and finally it aims to make a contribution to the research and debate on the role of multinational companies in developing countries.

The author uses a micro-analytical approach to the study of the conflict, which combines the analysis of concrete institutional arrangements with investigations of personal experiences and perceptions of the legal system. The book also adopts a unique social-legal approach in order to provide a more holistic picture of the disputes between oil companies and village communities.