Law And Development Facing Complexity In The 21st Century
New Links
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The novel opens with Aunt Polly scouring the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered with jam, and prepares to give him a whipping. Tom cries out theatrically, “Look behind you!” and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects sadly on Tom’s misbehavior and how the boys get away with too much.

Tom returns home at supper time. Tom is told about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly talks about how Tom should be whipped for skipping school that afternoon and swindling the boys in the village. Tom’s half-brother, Ben Foster, and his mother, who are also living in the house, are not present. Tom’s mother is not yet here. Tom’s aunt is satisfied.

Tom and the new arrival enter the room. Tom’s uncle, Ambrose, is tall and has long hair that is still worn in the fashion of the twenties. Tom has received the chant himself to disguise his appearance.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirty clothes and resolves to make him work the next day, a Saturday, as punishment.

On Saturday morning, Aunt Polly sends Tom out to whitewash the fence. Tom passes by, and Tom blows to get him to do some of the whitewashing as entertainment. He almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases Tom off, leaving Tom alone with his tallow.
The novel opens with Aunt Polly scorching the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered with jam, and prepares to give him a whipping. Tom cries out theatrically, “Look behind you!” and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects wistfully on Tom’s naughtiness and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at supper time. His uncle, Mr. Robinson, together with a well-dressed man about his business, is sitting at the table, discussing Tom’s absence. Tom’s uncle assures the man that he will be dropped school that afternoon and sent on a trip to St. Louis. Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom’s half-brother, Huckleberry Finn, and his best friend, Mark Twain, are staying with Tom’s uncle. Tom has sworn the last time to disgrace his family.

Tom goes out of the house by moonlight. He has been told by a friend that it was the night before the fair. Tom is determined to go. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, Tom and Huckleberry Finn meet a group of men dressed in white, singing and drinking. They are John Finnemore and his friends. Tom and Huckleberry Finn are drawn to the group and eventually choose to accompany them all the way home.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirtied clothes and resolves to make him work the next day, a Saturday, as punishment.

On Saturday morning, Aunt Polly sends Tom out to whitewash the fence. Tom passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “whale alley,” a kind of nothling. He almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his task.