

Hello:

I am an antiques dealer and appraiser in Connecticut with over 40 years experience.

There are several important issues concerning the sale of ivory and other material from endangered species that I wish address:

1. Most of the material found in antiques is over 100 years old. It has nothing to do with living animals.
2. Materials like ivory are found in a wide range of historic objects such as furniture, folk art, musical instruments and the decorative arts. Usually in small amounts.
3. Many antiques represent the past culture of our state and in many cases are family heirlooms.
4. Generations have collected artifacts (that include ivory) for their beauty and historic importance. They can have significant monetary value. If the material can't be sold it becomes worthless. That means no sales tax or estate taxes.
5. In the recent past ,eagle feathers became illegal to sell or even own for non native Americans. There developed a thriving black market for the material, however. All off the books.

Thank you for you're consideration.

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