

References:

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign Statement:
- <http://www.wisdc.org/pr012110.php>

History of Corporate Personhood:
-<http://acpn.citizenact.org/history/>

National Move to Amend Group:
-<http://movetoamend.org>

Local South Central Wisconsin Move to Amend:
- <http://www.scwmta.org/>

Quotables:

"I hope we shall crush in its birth the aristocracy of our monied corporations which dare already to challenge our government to a trial of strength, and bid defiance to the laws of our country."

.- Thomas Jefferson, 1816

"There can be no effective control of corporations while their political activity remains. To put an end to it will be neither a short nor an easy task, but it can be done."

- Theodore Roosevelt, 1906

"This decision was a terrible mistake. Presented with a relatively narrow legal issue, the Supreme Court chose to roll back laws that have limited the role of corporate money in federal elections since Teddy Roosevelt was president."

- Senator Russ Feingold,

"Make no mistake about it: The court's ruling in Citizens United, if left to stand, will destroy whatever hope we may ever have had of democracy in this country. It will entrench corporate power as never before. And the promise of America will be dashed."

-Mike McCabe, Director, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

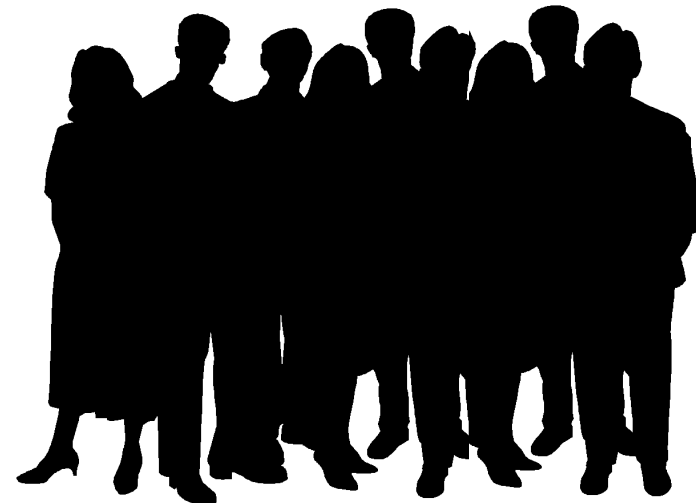
Are Corporations People ?

**They shouldn't be, but they ARE
according to five Supreme Court Justices!**

Long ago, the Supreme Court decided to treat corporations like human beings. As irrational as this idea was, at least there were laws that limited how corporations could spend money to influence elections. But on January 10, 2010, five Supreme Court justices ruled that money spent by corporations is officially protected free speech. Five men overturned well-established legal precedent and radically changed the world in which we live.

***No, Corporations Are Not People,
People are People!***

***What can be done To return our
democracy to flesh and blood people?***



***Look
Inside***

Democracy, At the Tipping Point

During the 2010 mid-term campaign, \$4 billion was spent. Much of this money was spent on ads, designed to influence the outcome of the election. Since much of that money was spent anonymously, there's no accountability for ad "facts" that were simply wrong. There's also no way for citizens to know which corporations supported which parties or candidates, or whether foreign corporations are influencing our elections.

***Corporate
Personhood***



***Natural
Personhood***

The idea of corporate "personhood" is just plain wrong. Each human being associated with a corporation — officers, directors, shareholders, employees — already has a voice as an individual, and can contribute money and vote in elections. Confering "personhood" on corporations amplifies their influence beyond that of other voters.

The goal of most corporations is to maximize profits. Executives and boards of directors are responsible to the shareholders, not to employees, the community, or even the nation. They spend money for the sole purpose of making more money.

Corporate spending decisions are made by an elite group of people. The decision-makers do not need the approval of shareholders, employees, or the community to buy influence. They pay for political advertising for the same reason they make other investments—to get a favorable return for the corporation. . . not to benefit you, your family, your community, your country.

What Can Be Done?

There is only one way to overturn the Supreme Court's unfair decision—by amending the Constitution. It's a long and difficult process, but there is no alternative and the stakes for our democracy are very high.

What Can You Personally Do To Move the Process Forward?

To amend the US Constitution, we need lawmakers to support this cause. Proving that we can gather enough signatures to put this on the ballot tells them that real people know about, and are opposed to, the increasing power of corporations in government. Passing a resolution will send a strong message to politicians, whose career depend on voters. Also, we hope to inspire, and work with, other municipalities to send the same message to their lawmakers.

Hundreds of communities around the country are putting this issue on ballots to send a message to state and federal lawmakers that we oppose letting corporations wield unreasonable power and we demand a permanent fix. To get a resolution on Mt. Horeb's next ballot in April 2011, we need 500 signatures. **Please read the following proposed resolution and sign the petition.**

RESOLVED, the Village of Mount Horeb, Wisconsin, calls for reclaiming democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate influence by amending the United States Constitution to establish that:

- 1. Corporations are not human beings and therefore are not entitled to Constitutional rights, and***
- 2. The freedom of speech is independent of a human being's wealth, and, therefore, regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.***

Can You Help With Petition Drive?

Call Jessica at 608-214-7355 or
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