



Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee
513 West Exchange Street ~ Akron, Ohio 44302-1403

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Website: <http://www.afsc.net>

CANDIDATE SURVEY ON DEMOCRACY AND CORPORATE RIGHTS

AS A CANDIDATE RUNNING FOR OFFICE IN THE STATE OF OHIO, YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE OF THE POWER AND INFLUENCE THAT BUSINESS CORPORATIONS POSSESS TO SHAPE PUBLIC POLICY THROUGH THEIR POLITICAL INFLUENCE. BUSINESS CORPORATIONS DO MORE THAN PRODUCE USEFUL GOODS AND SERVICES. INCREASINGLY, DUE TO CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL "JUDGE-MADE" RULES, THEY GOVERN.

SUCH CORPORATE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AFFECT THE ABILITY OF CITIZENS TO GOVERN THEMSELVES DIRECTLY AND THROUGH THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES. GIVEN THIS CONTEXT, WE ASK THAT YOU RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

1. DO YOU BELIEVE CORPORATIONS SHOULD BE ALLOWED, DIRECTLY OR THROUGH CORPORATE-SPONSORED POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES, TO DONATE TO OR INVEST IN POLITICAL CANDIDATES OR ISSUE CAMPAIGNS? (NOTE: AT ONE TIME IN OHIO, THEY COULDN'T.) IF NOT, WHAT DO YOU SPECIFICALLY PLAN TO DO ABOUT THIS IF ELECTED?

2. DO YOU BELIEVE PUBLIC OFFICIALS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXAMINE THE FINANCIAL BOOKS OF CORPORATIONS (I.E., TO PREVENT FUTURE ENRONS AND/OR TO ASSESS THE TRUE PROFITS OF OIL COMPANIES)? IF SO, WHAT DO YOU SPECIFICALLY PLAN TO DO ABOUT THIS IF ELECTED?

3. DO YOU BELIEVE CORPORATIONS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO MOVE TOXIC TRASH INTO COMMUNITIES FROM ANOTHER STATE IF PEOPLE IN THOSE COMMUNITIES DON'T WANT IT? IF NOT, WHAT DO YOU SPECIFICALLY PLAN TO DO ABOUT THIS IF ELECTED?

4. DO YOU BELIEVE PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE GREATER LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS THAN BUSINESS CORPORATIONS? (NOTE: AT ONE TIME IN OHIO, THEY DID). IF SO, WHAT DO YOU SPECIFICALLY PLAN TO DO ABOUT THIS IF ELECTED?

ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS ARE CRITICAL. AS LONG AS BUSINESS CORPORATIONS CONTINUE TO POSSESS CORPORATE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, OUR RIGHTS AS PEOPLE TO CREATE JUSTICE, PEACE AND SUSTAINABILITY IN OUR COMMUNITIES ARE PROFOUNDLY LIMITED.

[NOTE: FOR BACKGROUND ON CORPORATE POWER AND DEMOCRACY IN OHIO, GO TO
[HTTP://WWW.AFSC.NET/EJCORPDEM.HTML](http://www.afsc.net/ejcorpdem.html)]

PLEASE RESPOND NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 15 TO THIS SURVEY.

PLEASE MAIL TO 513 W. EXCHANGE ST., AKRON, OH 44302 OR FAX TO
330-996-4664 OR EMAIL TO AFSCOLE@AOL.COM.

THANK YOU!

Africa Initiative Program ~ Debra Calhoun, Director
Economic Justice & Empowerment Program ~ Greg Coleridge, Director

The American Friends Service Committee is a Quaker social action organization seeking non-violent solutions to human problems through promoting understanding and peace, and helping those ill and oppressed. AFSC is a 501 (c) (3) organization.