



# How to Challenge Corporate Authority in Ohio

## **TOP PRIORITIES – Getting the Word Out**

- Show *CorpOrNation* (our video on corporations and citizens in Ohio) to friends (have a house party – contact AFSC if you'd like to have someone help facilitate discussion)
- Show *CorpOrNation* to groups (unions, churches, student groups, classes, environmental groups, community organizations) you belong to – contact AFSC to have someone attend.
- Read *Citizens Over Corporations*, hold a book discussion, circulate copies to others.
- Arrange a speaker from AFSC before a group/organization.
- Help research and unearth long-forgotten history of corporations and democracy in Ohio.
- Analyze Ohio Constitution and Corporate Code to determine remaining democratic portions.
- Learn what other communities and states across the country are doing.

## **GOOD PROJECTS – Once Groundwork Laid (partial list)**

- Circulate a resolution to groups/organizations calling for the abolishment of corporate personhood (AFSC has developed a sample).
- Identify a highly visible company as a symbolic target of a particular form of corporate control that is no longer in the state constitution or corporate code.
- Seek county or city council resolution against corporate farming, etc.
- Campaign to remove commercialism and corporate influence in the public schools.
- Prepare a model state corporate code.
- Launch a petition drive asserting that natural citizens have greater rights than corporations.

## **ALTERNATIVES – Making Corporations Irrelevant**

- Help form a community food network in conjunction with local organic farmers, school cafeteria, restaurants, homeless gleaning program, soup kitchens, etc.
- Work with local community radio and TV to fight further media concentration in the community and to encourage low-watt community radio stations.
- Form an Independent Business Alliance that works for the interests of small businesses.
- Support a campaign to establish a municipally-owned electric utility.

## **DOWN THE ROAD – Possible Actions**

- Initiate legal action to have a particular corporation's charter revoked.
- Pass state constitutional amendment to abolish corporate personhood.
- Pass state law making corporate shareholders/directors liable for corporate actions.
- Pressure local government to provide or expand community access to cable stations in exchange for a license or franchise to operate in that community.
- Work with unions to publicize lack of free speech and right of assembly on employer property.
- Challenge *Santa Clara v Southern Pacific* or *Buckley v Valeo* court decisions.