

A CALL TO DEFY CORPORATE DOMINATION

Giant corporations govern the US and the Earth.
This rule by corporations violates the fundamental
democratic principle of consent of the governed.

The Declaration of
Independence and
the American
Revolution
unleashed great
democratic energies.

But the rich and powerful quickly limited the majority's basic rights. Aristocratic white men defined everyone else as their property...and as a rabble to be feared.

Shielded by the
Constitution, the
wealthy few etched
their values into the
culture.

They wrote the laws of property and personhood, commerce and contracts. They defined elections, education and labor. They amassed fabulous riches by enslaving, exploiting and exterminating under the rule of law.

Throughout the 1800's...
the majority struggled
to pry open the
Constitution to
obtain their basic
rights.

Meanwhile the propertied class unleashed its corporations upon people and the land.

Today, the largest
non-governmental
landowners are
corporations.



The biggest shareholders in Fortune 500 corporations are other corporations. Corporations define the country's education, food, energy, labor, transportation, news, information, health, land use, military and monetary policies.

The wealthy few
use our government to
deny people's basic rights
and to destroy
the natural world.

Their corporate chiefs are backed by the courts, police, Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force, FBI and CIA. Their transnational corporations vacuum the Earth. They write global property rights laws like NAFTA and FTAA. They create global institutions like the WTO and the IMF to enforce their rule.

Corporations
are not persons.

They are not citizens. They are legal fictions created in our names. We the People have the authority to do more than beg their bosses to behave a little less badly. Other species depend on us to do more than resist one corporate assault after another, or regulate the planet's destruction.

We can challenge
illegitimate corporate
authority.

We can strip corporations of Bill of Rights powers and Constitutional protections. We can oust public officials who enable corporations to trample human rights and govern the earth. But we can't stop there.

Millions of people
before us learned to
escape their cultures
of oppression.

They helped one another decolonize their minds. They analyzed historical and constitutional barriers erected against democratic self-governance. Then they built popular movements to contest the self-proclaimed divine rights of predatory corporate masters.

Building on this
history, we can direct
our goals, resources
and organizations
toward establishing
democracy.

We can begin by rethinking our country's stories. Discarding our culture's obsessive worship of money, competition and endless more. Challenging property rights with human rights.

Democracy can
contest corporate
domination.

But democracy must be much more than holding elections, or even redefining business.

Democracy
must make people's
humanity and con-
stitutional rights
reality.

So we the people can use self-governance to live in harmony with all species and the Earth.

Until we can understand the assumptions in which we are entrenched, we cannot know ourselves. —Adrienne Rich

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