



CAPITAL RESEARCH CENTER
AMERICA'S INVESTIGATIVE THINK TANK

September 14, 2021

Mr. John Venrick
20561 Wild Horse Ranch Road
Ranch 10
Rollins, MT 59931

Dear Mr. Venrick:

As conservatives, you and I are used to thinking of ourselves as "pro-business."

Alas, the feeling isn't mutual. Lately it seems most every Big Business in the country has become actively hostile to conservatives.

What on earth is going on here?

As our good friend Dinesh D'Souza puts it when describing his own mistreatment by "woke" corporations:

"These companies, by becoming hyper-political, are essentially discriminating against a significant portion of Americans who don't share their political views."

Now scarcely a day goes by without some new example of Big Business pressing the Left's agenda.

Whether it's Major League Baseball moving its All-Star Game to protest the Georgia voter protection law... or Hollywood threatening to boycott states that pass pro-life legislation... the economic bullying is relentless.

It's not just obnoxious boycotts. When you walk down the aisles at Target or click around Netflix, you're berated by Left-wing propaganda -- commanding us to "Celebrate Pride" or read Ibrahim X. Kendi's book about "anti-racism," and so on.

Worse yet, corporations have learned to use their power to censor those the Left doesn't like. People like you and me, in other words, Mr. Venrick.

- Look at how Big Tech shuts down conservative voices (sometimes including ours!)
- Look at how they use the media and non-stop propaganda to bully critics into submission.
- Look at how the Biden Administration works hand-in-hand with Big Tech to suppress critics... lately trying to get cellular companies to censor people's text messages that carry so-called "disinformation" about the COVID vaccine.

Whatever happened to free speech?

Many of these corporate titans outspokenly admire China's communist leaders, and routinely kowtow to them.

Clearly, Big Business is learning from their Chinese buddies how to shut down political dissent.

This is scary stuff.

Leftists used to complain about the power of Big Business, and you and I scoffed at them, or routinely sided with businesses.

But now that Big Business has apparently thrown in its lot with the Left, what do we conservatives do now?

We fight back.

We speak out.

We do everything in our power to stop this growing corporate tyranny before it gets even more out of hand.

You can play a huge part in this by supporting your friends at **Capital Research Center** today.

Already, you've helped Capital Research Center expose the Left in foundations, in government, in the media, and in classrooms. Thank you for that.

Now, you can help us expose the left in the corporate boardrooms!

You and I have a vital role to play. With your support, we'll provide the "opposition research" conservatives need so desperately right now.

The odds are stacked tremendously in the Left's favor right now. It's a real "David vs. Goliath" situation.

You and I are firmly with the Davids, greatly strengthening their slingshots.

Well, you know how that original battle turned out! It can be that way here too, with your help.

You'll be glad to know Capital Research Center is part of a coalition called **Stop Corporate Tyranny**.

We've helped build what our allies call a "one-stop shop that will reveal the Left's takeover of corporate America and provide resources for hard-working Americans to fight back."

Working alongside notable conservative activists from The National Council on Public Policy Research, the Alliance Defending Freedom, Americans for Limited Government, and more, we're calling out the growing plague of "woke capitalism."

Often when I visit your fellow Capital Research Center supporters, they ask me how we're working with other groups on a given issue. Well, here's a clear case where we've helped build a coalition of conservative allies to make a real difference.

Alongside our allies, we're educating citizens and consumers about what they can do. And we're fueling the brave efforts of those who resist corporate tyranny.

Our friends are very grateful for our assistance.

Stephen Soukup literally wrote the book on the subject, called The Dictatorship of Woke Capital. In it, he details how we got into this sorry situation. And offers advice to conservatives on how to fight back.

In a section of the book about conservatives who oppose woke capitalism, Steve included a nice section about Capital Research Center.

There he wrote, "CRC is an important ally in the battles against the politicization of almost everything." He also called our InfluenceWatch online database an "invaluable resource."

Read on to find out how you can get a complimentary copy of Steve's book!

Capital Research Center plays a vital role in the Stop Corporate Tyranny coalition, revealing the ugly truth about what the other side is up to.

Our investigations fuel our allies and their grassroots activists to fight, well-armed with the facts.

Your timely support is essential to winning this fight.

So what can you and I and other conservatives do to stop corporate tyranny?

It's tempting to say boycott the woke Left companies. But I don't think that's the answer.

Conservatives just don't do boycotts well. It's almost unheard of for them to succeed, unfortunately.

And consider that all the corporations are woke Left these days! If you stop drinking Coke over their Georgia actions, do you go to Pepsi, who's been horribly Left-wing for decades?

No, you and I have to do much more than mount boycotts.

- We have to look at how the Left insinuated itself into all these corporate boardrooms -- and start exerting some counter pressure of our own.
- We have to study how they get Leftist concessions by Big Business through "shareholder activism" -- and start doing that ourselves. To demand businesses leave politics alone.
- We have to expose the dangers to American freedom and prosperity posed by the tyranny of woke capitalism.
- Most of all, we have to get more customers and shareholders to speak out and say "enough of this!"

Our goal here is not to get corporations to turn into active conservatives. (Though, that'd be nice, and make a lot more sense than having them allied with the socialists and regulators of the Left!)

Rather, it's to get businesses the hell out of politics altogether!

- Why should Target or Amazon or Disney get to tell people they can't vote a certain way?
- Why should Big Tech be able to decide what's "misinformation" or not?
- Why should we have to care what some CEO thinks about politics and social issues?

Remember the old saying "shut up and sing," aimed at liberal musicians who insisted on commenting on all things political?

Nowadays, we need to say "shut up and sell."

Corporations should be responsible to their shareholders. Their job is to make money for their investors, not to "change society" through advancing the Left's version of "progress."

Most of our fellow citizens are squarely with us on this. If you look at the opinion polls you see big majorities hate seeing corporations taking political stands.

I also wonder if seeing all the power corporations wield over society this way is driving some of the attraction to socialism on the Left? Because this is not how businesses are supposed to behave.

Recently I talked about all this with one of your fellow Capital Research Center supporters. He's a Holocaust survivor who moved here to America and became a successful entrepreneur.

This friend told me that given his life experiences, "I know that government is my enemy."

Now he sees what's going on with these corporate tyrants. He said:

"I don't trust Big Business. They're not really businesses anymore. They're so gigantic and intertwined with government. That's not my family business."

He's absolutely right about that.

Corporate tyranny is not the American way.

It's not free enterprise. It's not capitalism. It's not economic freedom. It's not free and fair competition.

It's oppression by other means. And this time, you and I and our half of the country are the intended victims.

Your support will help Capital Research Center expose what's going on here and fuel the fight against it.

We've been on top of this issue for a long time, well before "woke capitalism" became a household name.

Decades ago, our researchers looked at the patterns of corporate philanthropy, and revealed how massively the corporations donated to the Left vs to the Right. Even then we disproved the notion that Big Business was a conservative force.

But at least back then, the corporations confined their Leftist slant to the philanthropies they supported. Now it's a suffocating full-court press.

Today, your support helps Capital Research Center investigators expose the woke corporate Left in so many ways.

You've helped us:

- Put together research that reveals the extent of the threat we face today. For instance, we detail the dangers posed by the "Environmental, Social and Governance" movement that drives corporations to embrace the Left's line on climate change, race, gender, all of it.
- Create a special section of our InfluenceWatch website that closely tracks all the organizations, activists, and labor unions who drive this new wave of Leftist corporate activism. This information is what was so helpful to Steve Soukup as he wrote his book.
- Work closely with allies like Justin Danhof of the National Center for Public Policy Research, who leads the charge as one of the only conservatives who speaks out for our views at corporate shareholder meetings.

- And put together powerful online videos that reveal the truth on this issue, such as one with Justin entitled, "The Left is Capturing Corporate America." (Let's see how long before Big Tech bans it for hitting too close to home!)

Honestly, I believe that in their heart of hearts, most of these corporate CEOs don't buy the Left's line. It's not so much a love of woke Leftism, but a terror of the Democrats! Perhaps a desperate attempt to pay their own kidnapping ransom.

Of course, some are "true believers." They're the ones who publicly praise the Chinese tyrants, and who relentlessly share their enthusiasm for the latest Leftist cause.

Either way, we've got a problem here.

Capital Research Center investigations reveal how the Left got this far.

For instance, we demonstrate how Leftist "shareholder activism" took off in recent years.

Leftist groups like "As You Sow" buy some shares in a company just so they can raise a fuss at shareholder meetings.

They demand the company issue a Leftist pronouncement or give in to some new demand. Since they can command big numbers, they get noticed. And the corporations want to avoid the publicity nightmares these groups can create.

Plus, groups like the Human Rights Campaign cozy up to corporate supporters and offer them a chance to seem "gay-friendly."

But then each year, they keep demanding more of their business allies - ever larger donations and ever larger acts of public obedience to stay in the activists' good graces.

It's an appeasement cycle... a form of blackmail. And it really works.

Capital Research Center investigations also reveal the truth about many of the groups who promote the Left's corporate bullying and blackmail operations.

We've found that many of these groups pretend to be separate organizations, but are actually all located together in the same building in Boston.

They're all interconnected and run by a ringleader connected to -- who else? -- George Soros.

Capital Research Center investigations also detail how vast capital funds that exert so much power have been captured by the woke Left.

Look at BlackRock, who controls \$9 trillion in assets. Their influential CEO now says his firm will "prioritize sustainability and climate change in its investment decisions" - - concentrating on politics rather than profit.

To corporate titans like these, it's not about profit anymore! It's about getting their way and lording it over the rest of us.

They've gotten so rich they don't care about money anymore. They care about flexing their muscle and winning praise from their liberal friends at the cocktail parties and in the media.

You and I must push back on behalf of consumers and citizens and conservatives who've had it with all this nonsense.

Justin Danhof is the only conservative who engages in shareholder activism. There need to be many more like him! Our research and activities with Stop Corporate Tyranny will help show the way.

Other friends need to raise their voices too. We need to attract more corporate leaders who speak out.

Like Warren Buffet. He's a big liberal, but nonetheless he says it's a big mistake for corporations to get publicly involved in political causes like this.

Our friend Steve Soukup makes clear that woke capitalism isn't working. It won't make money -- and will lead to big losses for the companies and funds that put political correctness before sound investment strategies.

Of course, you and I also know that all the Leftist policies demanded by these corporations' "friends" would end up putting them all out of business if fully enacted! (Maybe that wouldn't be such a bad thing in some of these cases....)

Now, many pension funds are talking about using the Left's "Environmental Social Governance" measures to decide where to invest their pension funds! Fund managers charge a lot to administer those funds, but they aren't performing so well.

Hopefully these lessons get delivered sooner rather than later. But in the meantime, it's up to you and me to fight back.

Your support today will help your Capital Research Center friends expand their efforts on so many fronts. You'll help us:

- Expand our research and investigations to further expose the dangerous organizations and players driving the woke capitalism movement.
- Work with our Stop Corporate Tyranny allies to educate and energize shareholders to speak out.
- Intensify our outreach on these issues, with media appearances, social media efforts, and talk radio interviews.
- Create more educational videos to spread the word.
- And build new profiles of the Left's corporate allies and pressure groups for our popular InfluenceWatch website.

In all these ways and more, you'll help get corporations out of political activism -- and restore the proper balance between business and politics and everything else.

Mr. Venrick, please give right away to this most urgent request, and do your part to save America from corporate tyranny.

Your timely gift of \$50, \$75, \$100, or any other amount you think appropriate, will help Capital Research Center and our coalition allies ramp up our efforts and expose the threat woke capitalism poses to our country's freedoms.

Your contribution will help us raise the \$1,033,333 necessary to support Capital Research Center's investigations and outreach over the next two months.

In addition, if you can give \$100 or more, we'll send

you a complimentary copy of Stephen Soukup's The Dictatorship of Woke Capital. I think you'll find it fascinating to read more about this distressing situation, and what we can do about it.

Please let me know using the enclosed reply form and envelope how much you can give, and if you'd like to receive your book. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for helping Capital Research Center expose the ugly truth about the Left.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Walter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott Walter
President

P.S. Not too long ago, corporations were leery of wading into political controversies. With good reason! They didn't want to alienate half their potential customers.

Remember that famous Michael Jordan quote: "**Republicans buy sneakers, too.**"

Sadly those days are gone. Nowadays the Left has infected corporations and turned them into dangerous tools of tyranny.

It's up to you and me to fight back against this new trend of "woke capitalism" before it does even more damage to our nation's freedom.

Your special contribution will help **Capital Research Center** expose the threat posed by the Big Business Left -- and help our allies in the **Stop Corporate Tyranny** coalition lead the resistance.

Please give right away to help fight the Left on this crucial new front. Thank you.

Help Stop Corporate Tyranny!

Mr. John Venrick
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Rollins, MT 59931

Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Big Business has thrown in its lot with the Left, launching relentless propaganda campaigns and declaring war on conservatives. This isn't true capitalism. It's more what we're used to seeing from the tyrants of China.

Your special contribution will help **Capital Research Center** expose the threat "woke capitalism" poses to American freedom. And you'll help us fuel our conservative allies in the **Stop Corporate Tyranny** coalition.

Please stand up to the corporate Left with your tax-deductible gift today. Thank you!

Mr. Scott Walter, President
Capital Research Center
P.O. Box 98239
Washington, DC 20090

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Please make checks payable to **Capital Research Center**. Or provide your credit card information here:

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If your gift is \$100 or more, we'll send you a copy of Stephen Soukup's book The Dictatorship of Woke Capital. If you want your copy, please check here: _____.

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