
Here is the link to all OMNI newsletters:
http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/

Noam Chomsky: “Any good capitalist democracy needs to keep the rabble in line. To make sure that they are atoms of consumption, obedient tools of production, isolated from one another, lacking any concept of a decent human life. They are to be spectators in a political system run by elites, blaming each other and themselves for what’s wrong.” This statement is printed on the cover of the January 2012 no. of Z Magazine and the end of the editorial by editor Lydia Sargent, “What Will It Take To No Longer Tolerate the Intolerable?” I highly recommend this magazine.

Contents of #1
November 9 Preparation for January
The Case for Amendment
The Case for Disclosure
Romney Defends Corporations

Contents of #2 12-9-11
Resisting Citizens United: Amendment and Disclosure
Constitutional Amendment Proposed in Senate
Occupy the Courts: January 20, 2012
Amendment Campaign Coast to Coast
Los Angeles City Council Votes to Amend

Contents of #3
Move to Amend January 20 Action
Local Jan. 20 Action
Noah Tomlinson’s Letter
Senator Sanders’ Constitutional Amendment Proposal
Info from AlterNet:
Jeffrey Clements’ Corporations Are Not People
Montana Supreme Court vs. Citizens United
2011 & 28th Amendment
Clements and Sam Seder
Corporate Take-Over of Constitution: Consequences
Bill Moyers vs. Take-Over
Chief Culprit
AG Martha Coakley for Amendment
Excerpt from Clements’ Book
Business Leaders for Amendment
Amendment Movement
PROTEST CITIZENS UNITED SUPREME COURT RULING
MOVE TO AMEND is planning Occupy the Courts, a one-day occupation of Federal courthouses across the country, including the U. S. Supreme Court in Washington, DC, on January 20. Contact: http://movetoamend.org/ See OMNI’s Corporate Personhood Newsletter #2 for more information. Contact David Druding for flyers.

LOCAL ACTION JAN. 20 PLANNED
Here is the flyer prepared by David Druding and Mark Prime:

Occupy the Courts Jan. 20th
END CORPORATE RULE. LEGALIZE DEMOCRACY.
Corporations are NOT People. Money is NOT Speech.
Friday, January 20, 2012 Occupy NWA locally with Move to Amend nationally demonstrate to Occupy the Courts meet on the Square in Fayetteville at noon short march to the Fed. Bldg. at 35 E. Mtn. St our action from 12 noon to 2pm will include speakers, musicians, and signs to express our demands: END CORPORATE RULE. LEGALIZE DEMOCRACY.

LETTER FROM NOAH TOMLINSON, Wednesday, December 14, 2011
— “Corporations not people”
There are no evil villains, only evil ideas and institutions that poison our minds. The most toxic institution in the American system is corporate personhood. Prior to the 1886 Santa Clara case, corporations were given temporary, privileged charters that could be easily revoked if they failed to serve the public good. Originally, the Constitution guaranteed rights for living humans alone; after 1886, corporations began claiming these rights because they were now considered “persons.”

In my opinion, corporations captured constitutional rights to increase profit, destroy ecosystems and communities, and steal more power. Corporate personhood has created a crisis of democracy. Previously, corporations were limited in their ability to spend money to influence elections, and corporate lobbyists were nonexistent. With the Citizens United decision, the Supreme Court ruled corporate “persons” deserve more free speech. Now corporations can spend unlimited sums of money to buy candidates and laws. Given that candidates with more money win most of the time, does anyone believe we have democracy? In reality we have plutocracy, or rule by the wealthiest. We must place corporations back into their appropriate context of privilege only. The Arkansas Legislature must amend the Equal Protection clause of the state Constitution to define that only “natural persons” deserve rights, and pass a resolution for amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
ABEL TOMLINSON
Fayetteville

Sen. Bernie Sanders’ Constitutional Amendment Proposal
Excerpt: "Warning that 'American democracy in endangered,' Sen. Bernie Sanders on Thursday proposed a constitutional amendment to overturn a Supreme Court ruling that allowed unrestricted and
Whereas, government of, by, and for the people has long been a cherished American value, and We The People’s fundamental and inalienable right to self-govern, and thereby secure rights to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness is guaranteed in the US Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, and;

Whereas, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance, and;

Whereas, persons are rightfully recognized as human beings whose essential needs include clean air, clean water, safe and secure food, and;

Whereas, corporations are entirely human-made legal fictions created by express permission of We The People and our government, and;

Whereas, corporations can exist in perpetuity, can exist simultaneously in many nations at once, need only profit for survival, and exist solely through the legal charter imposed by the government of We The People, and;

Whereas, in addition to these advantages, the great wealth of large corporations allows them to wield coercive force of law to overpower human beings and communities, thus denying We The People’s exercise of our Constitutional rights, and;

Whereas, corporations are not mentioned in the Constitution, and The People have never granted constitutional rights to corporations, nor have We decreed that corporations have authority that exceeds the authority of We The People of the United States, and;

Whereas, interpretation of the US Constitution by appointed Supreme Court justices to include corporations in the term ‘persons’ has long denied We The Peoples’ exercise of self-governance by endowing corporations with Constitutional protections intended for We The People, and;

Whereas, the illegitimate judicial bestowal of civil and political rights upon corporations usurps basic human and Constitutional rights guaranteed to human persons, and also empowers corporations to sue municipal and state governments for adopting laws that violate ‘corporate rights’ even when those laws serve to protect and defend the rights of human persons and communities, and;

Whereas, corporations are not and have never been human beings, and therefore are rightfully subservient to human beings and governments as our legal creations, and;

Whereas, large corporations’ profits and survival are often in direct conflict with the essential needs and rights of human beings, and;

Whereas, the recent Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission Supreme Court decision that rolled back the legal limits on corporate spending in the electoral process creates an unequal playing field and allows unlimited corporate spending to influence elections, candidate selection, policy decisions and sway votes, and forces elected officials to divert their attention from The Peoples’ business, or even vote against the interest of their human constituents, in order to ensure competitive
campaign funds for their own re-election, and;

Whereas, large corporations own most of America’s mass media and use that media as a megaphone to express loudly their political agenda and to convince Americans that their primary role is that of consumers, rather than sovereign citizens with rights and responsibilities within our democracy, and this forces citizens to toil to discern the truth behind headlines and election campaigning, and;

Whereas, tens of thousands of people and municipalities across the nation are joining with the Move to Amend campaign to call for an Amendment to the US Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood;

Therefore be it resolved that the State of (City of, County of, etc.) ___________ hereby calls on our (legislators, elected officials, mayor, commissioners, etc.) ___________ to join the tens of thousands of citizens, grassroots organizations and local governments across the county in the Move to Amend campaign to call for an Amendment to the Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood and return our democracy, our elections, our communities back to America’s human persons and to thus reclaim our sovereign right to self-governance.

Be it further resolved that the State of (City of, County of, etc.) ___________ calls on other communities and jurisdictions to join with us in this action by passing similar Resolutions.

Be it further resolved that the State of (City of, County of, etc.) ___________ supports education to increase public awareness of the threats to our democracy posed by Corporate Personhood, and encourages lively discussion to build understanding and consensus to take appropriate community and municipal actions to democratically respond to these threats.

DATE: ___________

http://corporationsarenotpeople.com/author/jeffclements/

Corporations Are Not People
Challenging unchecked corporate power, restoring republican democracy

About Jeff Clements
Jeff Clements, an attorney and author, is the co-founder of Free Speech for People, a national, non-partisan campaign to challenge the creation of Constitutional rights for corporations, overturn Citizens United v. FEC, and strengthen American democracy and republican self-government. He is the author of the Corporations Are Not People (Berrett-Koehler, 2012). Mr. Clements also is the founder of Clements Law Office, LLC, and has represented and advocated for people, businesses and the public interest since 1988. Mr. Clements served as Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Public Protection & Advocacy Bureau in the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office from early 2007 to 2009. As Bureau Chief, he led more than 100 attorneys and staff in law enforcement and litigation in the areas of civil rights, environmental protection, healthcare, insurance and financial services, antitrust and consumer protection. Mr. Clements also served as an Assistant Attorney General in Massachusetts from 1996 to 2000, where he worked on litigation against the tobacco industry and handled a wide range of other investigations and litigation to enforce unfair trade practice, consumer protection and antitrust laws. In private practice, Mr. Clements has been a partner in the Boston law firms of Clements & Clements, LLP and Mintz Levin. He also has practiced in Maine, where he has represented clients in a variety of appeals and litigation, and in investigations and prosecutions by the U.S. Attorney’s Office and Maine Attorney General’s Office. In the 1990s, Mr. Clements was elected as a Trustee and President of the Board of Trustees of the Portland Water District, a public agency responsible for protecting and delivering safe drinking water and ensuring proper treatment of wastewater for 160,000 people in Portland and South Portland, Maine and several surrounding communities. He was a
co-founder, officer, and director of Friends of Casco Bay, an environmental advocacy organization focused on protection and stewardship of Maine’s Casco Bay. He also has served as a Trustee and President of the Board of The Waldorf School in Lexington, Massachusetts. Mr. Clements graduated with distinction in History and Government from Colby College in 1984, and magna cum laude with a concentration in Public Law from the Cornell Law School in 1988. He lives in Concord, Massachusetts with his wife and three children.

Huge Win– Montana Supreme Court Upholds Montana Ban on Corporate Money in Elections!

Agreeing with a gutsy defense of the rights of Montana people by Attorney General Steve Bullock, the Montana Supreme Court has rejected a Citizens United-based challenge to the Montana Corrupt Practices Act. The Court said this: The question then, is ...

2011 May Have Been A Turning Point

2011 May Have Been A Turning Point Someday, 2011 may be seen as the turning-point year for the 28th Amendment to reverse Citizens United v. FEC. There are real indications of a new, tough and rapidly growing American reform movement, one ...

Majority Report with Sam Seder

I had a great talk with Sam Seder on the Majority Report about the Powell Memo, American democracy, Citizens United, the People’s Rights Amendment, and Corporations Are Not People. You can listen to the interview, and check out the Majority Report ...

What the corporate take-over of our Constitution means for you

Citizens United is not just about wonky campaign finance and “money in politics.” The corporate take-over of our Constitution worsens the lives of almost every American. 1. Your voice and your vote. Corporations now have the ‘free speech’ right to spend unlimited money ...

Bill Moyers’ Foreword to Corporations Are Not People

Photo Credit: PBS Bill Moyers’ foreword to my book, Corporations Are Not People, is on AlterNet today. Check it out, as Bill packs a punch: Rarely have so few imposed such damage on so many. When five conservative members of the Supreme Court handed ...

Meet the Man to Blame for Corporations Having More Rights Than You

This is one of the most read/most emailed stories on AlterNet; I hope that you’ll check it out and let me know what you think. Berrett-Koehler Publishers / By Jeffrey Clements The real history of today’s excessive corporate power starts with a tobacco lawyer ...

AG Martha Coakley Supports Constitutional Amendment to Reverse Citizens United,
corporate “rights”

Posted on December 8, 2011

Attorney General Martha Coakley today became the first sitting Attorney General in the nation to call for a Constitutional Amendment to overturn Citizens United v. FEC and the Supreme Court’s fabrication of corporate Constitutional rights to unlimited corporate election spending. Here’s … Continue reading →

The Chamber of Commerce, Lewis Powell, and “Activist-Minded Court”- AlterNet Excerpt

Posted on December 8, 2011

UPDATE: Great to see the interest in this issue, and in winning republican democracy back for America- this excerpt of my book is one of the most read/most emailed stories on AlterNet! I hope you’ll check it out. Berrett-Koehler Publishers / By Jeffrey … Continue reading →

Business Leaders Back Bi-partisan People’s Rights Amendment to Overturn Citizens United

Posted on December 2, 2011

Some news of the week: Some of America’s smartest business leaders are supporting the People’s Rights Amendment to overturn Citizens United and “corporate speech” theories of the First Amendment. And Free Speech for People announced this week that the People’s … Continue reading →

Local movement for 28th Amendment Spreads to Major Cities

Posted on December 1, 2011

Following lopsided wins in towns and cities in Montana, Wisconsin, Colorado, and in Massachusetts town meetings, the Los Angeles City Council is now poised to vote on a resolution calling for a Constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United and the … Continue reading →

http://corporationsarenotpeople.com/author/jeffclements/

END NEWSLETTER #3 ON CORPORATE PERSONHOOD