Recommended Reading & Viewing

On Democracy and Corporate Power

BOOKS

General / Corporations

When Corporations Rule the World  David Korten. Very thorough, well-reasoned, and readable analysis of the global corporate and financial system from an insider in the financial world. Outstanding.

The Case Against the Global Economy, and for a Turn Toward the Local  Jerry Mander, ed. Diverse, superb collection of essays from around the world covering many aspects of corporate power.


The Divine Right of Capital  Marjorie Kelly deconstructs the supremacy of shareholders overworkers and the public interest.


The Open Media Series  from 7 Stories Press. 30 titles offering focused, concise introductions to specific issues, many directly related to the struggle between democracy & corporate power. For a list of titles see: sevenstories.com

America: What Went Wrong? & America: Who Stole the Dream?  Don Barlett and James Steele expand on their Pulitzer Prize-winning series of articles detailing the capture of government by money and the favoring of wealthy and corporate interests over all others.

Education

Schools Our Children Deserve, Education Inc. & What to Look For in a Classroom  Alfie Kohn. The first title covers the dangers posed by high-stakes testing schemes and their pushers. The latter two are collections of short essays. Education Inc. compiles many writers and is focused directly on corporate influence. Classroom collects Kohn's essays on numerous educational issues. Kohn's books are consistently excellent.

Giving Kids the Business  Alex Molnar examines the corporate push to commercialize schools. Scattered, but a good exploration of the topic.

Community, Development, Independent Business

The Hometown Advantage: How to Defend Your Main Street Against Chain Stores... and Why it Matters  Stacy Mitchell. Recommended to anyone concerned about the preservation of Main Streets and independent businesses in America.

Going Local  Michael Shuman looks at the alternatives to community dependence on outside corporations. Excellent resource section.


Media and Public Relations

Rich Media, Poor Democracy  Robert McChesney. Recent trends in media concentration and its effects on democracy.

Media Monopoly  (6th edition) Ben Bagdikian documents the extent of media concentration, now including telecommunication

Toxic Sludge Is Good For You & Trust Us, We're Experts  J. Stauber and S. Rampton explore the public relations industry and corporate tactics for manipulating public opinion.

We the Media  Hazen & Winokur eds. Essays, facts & resources from many journalists on the state of media & ideas for improvement.

This list represents a selection of staff favorites. We welcome your feedback.

Please purchase from your local independently owned bookstores!

If you lack an independent bookseller in your area, consider ordering online through our website or www.100fires.com

If your local library lacks these titles, please request them!

Check our website for online resources and updates to this collection. Please contact us for references on topics of special interest.
**History**

*Unequal Protection* (2002) Thom Hartmann

The first book to trace the evolution of "corporate personhood" offers new insights even to those already immersed in corporate issues.

*A People's History of the United States* Howard Zinn tells American history from the perspective of average citizens, rather than those in positions of power.

**Other**


*One World, Ready or Not* William Greider's thorough analysis of global capitalism.

*The Divine Right of Capital* Marjorie Kelly deconstructs the absurdity of shareholder supremacy and society-wide discrimination in favor of wealth.


*The Real War on Crime* Steven Donziger, ed. How the fear of crime, rather than crime itself, shapes criminal justice policy. Also covers prison-industrial complex.

*Burning All Illusions; a Guide to Personal*... (producers noted)

**PERIODICALS**

*Rachel's Environment and Health News* stands out among environmental journals for regularly making the connection to problems' roots in illegitimate corporate power and provokes readers to focus there. Also available by e-mail. See Rachel.org

*Dollars and Sense* magazine critiques and offers alternatives to the corporate economic paradigm and has produced several thematic compilations, including Real World Macro and Real World Microeconomics.

*PR Watch* reports on the public relations industry and news manipulation (prwatch.org).

*The CATO Journal* published by the free-market CATO institute. While endorsing much of the corporate agenda, CATO is an institution with the ideological consistency to oppose corporate subsidies and favoritism. See cato.org

*Extra* critiques corporate media reporting from a progressive perspective and corrects misrepresentations in major news outlets. See fair.org (unfortunately, we have not found media critique from the right of comparable, quality.)

*Multinational Monitor* watchdogs transnational corporations worldwide (essential.org).

*New Rules* offers news on family farms, independent business, community control issues and more. See: newrules.org

*Rethinking Schools* tracks privatization and commercialism, among other current educational issues. (rethinkingschools.org). R.T. publishes the recommended *Rethinking Globalization* a book designed for teachers--includes exercises and resources as well as articles.

*Business Week* In addition to solid reporting, BW provides serious critiques of the corporate world (businessweek.com). *The Economist* and *Wall St. Journal* are good sources for getting unabashedly corporate perspectives.

**DOCUMENTARY FILMS**

*(producers noted)*

*Fear and Favor in the Newsroom* Beth Sanders offers a thorough and convincing account of how corporate media constricts the free flow of ideas and information on which democracy depends. Many first-hand accounts. Outstanding. 1 hr.

*Taken for a Ride* Jim Klein & Martha Olson reveal the story of auto, rubber and oil corporations' dismantling of U.S. streetcar lines in the 1930s. 1 hr.

*The War on Drugs* Frank Wiering & Cristina Berio. Who benefits from this war? Follow the money. 1 hr.

*Roger and Me* Michael Moore's comedic barb on human impacts of corporations. 90 min.

*Global Village or Global Pillage?* Jeremy Brecher shows constructive ways that ordinary people are addressing the impacts of global corporatization. 27 min.

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