

## Justice Rising

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Editor and Layout, *Justice Rising*

**JUSTICE RISING** is a publication of **the Alliance for Democracy**, whose mission is to end the domination of our politics, our economics, the environment, and our culture by large corporations. The Alliance seeks to establish true economic and political democracy and to create a just society with a sustainable, equitable economy.

### Alliance for Democracy

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Cover artist **Peter Veres** is a San Francisco-based *maestro* of tile, monsters and mythical creatures, and has been making political cartoons since the 1960s. You can see his mosaic work at [www.mosaicmercantile.com](http://www.mosaicmercantile.com). He notes that the cover art is a detail from

"Ascending and Descending," a 1960 lithograph by M. C. Escher (1898–1972) with domes added. The large figure is "The Brains," depicting Boss Tweed of Tammany Hall, an 1871 wood engraving by Thomas Nast (1840-1902). The background is part of an aerial view of the US Capitol.

## Support the Alliance for Democracy

Join with others committed to creating direct, participatory democracy, as well as a sustainable, equitable society by making a donation to AfD.

Your financial contribution will support our campaign to end corporate rule and to ensure that the people's voice will be heard.

Please fill out the membership form on page 17 or become a member online at [www.thealliancefordemocracy.org/join.html](http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org/join.html) You can also use this site to become a sustaining donor. Giving regularly is a great help to AfD in planning throughout the year.

AfD members receive *Justice Rising* and alerts about critical pro-democracy actions across the country. For questions about our programs or membership, contact the national office at 781-894-1179 or [afd@thealliancefordemocracy.org](mailto:afd@thealliancefordemocracy.org). We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for your support. Create real democracy!



## Separate Corporations & State

*Violence is power;  
Religion is power;  
Money is power.  
People are power.*  
by *Jim Tarbell*

People power rose with the creation of democratic states. These states subsumed the power of violence under democratic control. Our country managed the power of religion by separating Church and State. In order to ensure the dominance of people power in our democratic State, we have to gain control over the power of money. The best way to do that is to separate corporations and State.

The American Revolution successfully overthrew both corporate power and imperial British rule. After the American Revolution, corporations concentrated money into institutions that promoted the public good. But in the ensuing years, elite policy makers changed the corporate charter from serving the public good to benefiting a small wealthy elite. The time has come to make sure that our concentrated public and private wealth in corporations is serving the public good once again.

We have to recognize and honor the fact that a major function of government is to protect the people from the ravages of money power. Present Washington DC solutions do not accomplish this. We have to make a firewall separating corporations and State and in the process separate money and State. We have to stop the revolving door between corporate America and our government institutions. We have to implement contracts — which Jan Edwards points out are common in corporate America — that prohibit employees from going to work for the "other side" or ever using information or relationships that they develop in government service for their own good or the financial benefit of corporations. We have to create an honorable civil service that: is proud of serving the public good; recognizes the role of government in fighting corporate power; and dedicates their lives to this noble calling. We no doubt have to create publicly-financed elections. We have to end corporate personhood so corporations can not use the right to petition our government under the First Amendment to swamp public officials with corporate lobbyists. We have to end the insidious policy that money is speech. Finally, we have to create a strict prohibition of agents or employees of major corporations from ever serving as policy makers in our federal, state or local governments. We need a very strict separation of corporations and State.

## The We the People Amendment

House Joint Resolution 29 introduced February 14, 2013

Section 1. [Artificial Entities Such as Corporations Do Not Have Constitutional Rights] The rights protected by the Constitution of the United States are the rights of natural persons only.

Artificial entities established by the laws of any State, the United States, or any foreign state shall have no rights under this Constitution and are subject to regulation by the People, through Federal, State, or local law.

The privileges of artificial entities shall be determined by the People, through Federal, State, or local law, and shall not be construed to be inherent or inalienable.

Section 2. [Money is Not Free Speech] Federal, State, and local government shall regulate, limit, or prohibit contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own contributions and expenditures, to ensure that all citizens, regardless of their economic status, have access to the political process, and that no person gains, as a result of their money, substantially more access or ability to influence in any way the election of any candidate for public office or any ballot measure.

Federal, State, and local government shall require that any permissible contributions and expenditures be publicly disclosed. The judiciary shall not construe the spending of money to influence elections to be speech under the First Amendment.