



Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Congregational Stance
on Government By and For the People
September 1, 2014

We, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, stand with those who believe that corporations cannot claim inherent constitutional rights, for those are human rights.

We believe that money is not speech. We believe corporations are not people. We believe that people, not corporations, govern in the United States. We believe corporations are legal fictions

We witness the growing influence of wealthy individuals and entities in government and the declining influence of the common citizen.

For these reasons, we, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, call on Congress to propose to the States for ratification a Constitutional Amendment that clearly states that:

- Corporations are not people
- Money is not speech
- Government has the right and obligation to regulate campaign contributions and expenditures by artificial entities and by individuals so as to assure that all citizens, regardless of wealth, determine how and by whom they shall be governed

In his powerful Citizens United dissent, January, 2010, Supreme Court Justice Stevens stated it well when he wrote:

"... corporations have no consciences, no beliefs, no feelings, no thoughts, no desires. Corporations help structure and facilitate the activities of human beings, to be sure, and their 'personhood' often serves as a useful legal fiction. But they are not themselves members of "We the People" by whom and for whom our Constitution was established."



We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.