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VEPACHEDU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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American Corporations Pretend to be Alien

“Corporations are people, my friend” declared Mitt Romney¹, everything corporations earn ultimately goes to people, the shareholders and corporate officers who fly in corporate jets and take golden parachutes. Long time ago, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) held in Trustees of Dartmouth College v. Woodward, 17 U.S. 518 (1819), and recognized corporations as having the same rights as natural persons to contract and to enforce contracts. Under the Fourteenth Amendment of the US Constitution, the word “person,” as interpreted by the courts, includes corporations and extends certain constitutional protections to corporations. In *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* (2010), the SCOTUS upheld the right of corporations to make political contributions under the First Amendment. The SCOTUS ruled that closely held corporations cannot be required to provide contraception coverage for their employees, in *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores and Conestoga Wood Specialties v. Burwell*, on June 30, 2014².

Now these “corporate people” are emigrating, changing names, disowning American nationality, and exercising their fundamental rights under the First Amendment to the American Constitution, to make more money by laying of “American non-corporate people” in favor of cheap slave labor in the 3rd world , and avoiding American taxes, following the tenets of “greed is good,” Gordon Gekko³. Corporate giants, such as Pfizer, Walgreen, Medtronic, Mylan, Abbvie, etc., have made bids to invert by merging

¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KIPQkd_AA6c

² <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2014/07/how-supreme-court-turned-corporations-people-200-year-saga>

³ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PF_iorX_MAw

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with foreign companies and will be eligible to claim their headquarters are offshore to avoid U.S. taxes. Walgreen is considering moving its headquarters to Switzerland. Medtronic is buying an Ireland-based company. Mylan Inc. would acquire a major chunk of Abbott Laboratories' generic business outside the US. Pfizer will be allowed to make a new bid in November, after its initial failed bid to buy AstraZeneca in May. The cash-and-stock bid, which valued AstraZeneca at about \$119 billion, would have created the world's largest drug company. AbbVie Inc bought Dublin-based Shire Plc in a 32 billion pound (\$54.7 billion) deal that will allow it to slash its tax bill by relocating to Britain and becoming a company incorporated in Jersey, the Channel Islands, and tax-domiciled in Britain, which will pay an effective tax of about 13 percent by 2016, sharply lower than its current rate of about 22 percent, making the deal one of the biggest driven by the tactic of tax inversion. In addition, arthritis drug Humira, the world's top selling medicine, loses US patent protection in 2016 plummeting Abbvie's profits, further cutting its tax burden in the US⁴.

Fortune 500 companies that were consistently profitable from 2008 to 2012 had an average effective tax rate of 19.4 percent and 26 of the companies paid no federal income taxes over the five-year period, according to Citizens for Tax Justice, a Washington, D.C., tax policy group. Yet, American corporations engage in these tricks because they can defer or avoid completely paying US taxes on offshore earnings, unless they bring the offshore profits to the United States. The merged group will also have more firepower for acquisitions and layoffs⁵.

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Source: The primary sources cited above, New York Times (NYT), Washington Post (WP), Mercury News, Bayarea.com, Chicago Tribune, USA Today, Intellihealthnews, Deccan Chronicle (DC), the Hindu, Hindustan Times, Times of India, AP, Reuters, AFP, womenfitness.net, about.com, mondaq.com, etc.

Om! Asatoma Sadgamaya, Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya, Mrityorma Amritamgamaya, Om Shantih, Shantih, Shantih!

⁴ <http://www.post-gazette.com/business/2014/07/14/Mylan-to-buy-Abbott-business-line-in-5-3-billion-deal/stories/201407140129#ixzz38F8mof46>

⁵ <http://www.post-gazette.com/business/2014/07/14/Mylan-to-buy-Abbott-business-line-in-5-3-billion-deal/stories/201407140129#ixzz38F8mof46>

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(Aum! Lead the world from wrong path to the right path, from ignorance to knowledge, from mortality to immortality, and peace!)

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