

Start Your Investigation!

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If you are planning an action on January 21, and want to stop a corporate impostor, it's easy! You can track down and call out corporations masquerading as 'people' in your own home town. There are lots of creative ways to do it.

Almost any corporation that is masquerading as a "person" and using its money to undermine our democratic process would make an appropriate action target on January 21st. But we believe that focusing our forces on a few important targets will have the greatest impact.

Interview your corporate person (aka, corporate logo, sign, ATM machine, other inanimate representation, etc.) and review a 'personhood' checklist to make sure you've found a corporate 'person' and not a real 'person'. There are lots of fun and clever ways you can demonstrate this. Take good pictures and/or video to share with friends and other activists. Then spread the word!

- Find a local branch of one of the corporate giants responsible for the huge problems facing our democracy, given their outsized influence and the political spending that fuels it. Bank of America and Chevron are a couple of great examples.
- Interview your corporate person (aka, corporate logo, sign, ATM machine, other inanimate representation, etc.) and review a 'personhood' checklist to make sure you've found a corporate 'person' and not a real 'person'. Does this 'person' eat? Sleep? Breathe? There are lots of fun and clever ways you can demonstrate this. Take good pictures and/or video to share with friends and other activists.
- Hold a demonstration, rally, or short press announcement to act out your 'investigation' and publicize the results.
- Remember, that the goal of this action is to expose how large corporations are fake "persons" masquerading in order to buy influence. Gas station employees simply work for the corporation that employs them, or licenses their business to use its name and oil. Those impostors to personhood, and not real live human beings, are our target.
- Spread the word about tracking down corporate impostors in your midst. You can pass out flyers and question passersby if they've seen other 'corporate imposters' in your town and what do to when they spot one. And then you can all call your state and local elected officials and ask them to pass a local or state resolution calling for an amendment.
- You can ask other people to help track down other corporations disguised as people by signing and circulating petitions.

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Resources to help you plan your investigation:

[Flyer for Occupy the Corporations](#)

Here is a [sample video of what your street theater and rally could look like](#). We also encourage you to film your own street theater prior to January 21 and share it with us (amendment@citizen.org) and your friends to build momentum for the day's action.

[Script to sample skit](#)

[Sample 'personhood' checklist](#)

Signs: "[I am a Person](#)", "[Not a Person](#)" "[End Corporate Rule](#)" "[Corporations Are Not People](#)"

Other Recommendations for Actions

Citizens Posse: In 2010, a [Citizens Posse](#) was organized to effect a "citizens' arrest" of greedy insurance companies that stood in the way of health care reform. They, and other short-sighted big corporations, are only empowered to effectively buy more influence by *Citizens United*!

Occupy the Kochs: Koch Industries (and the billionaire brothers behind it) are **THE** pre-eminent funders of faux-grassroots campaigns to gut vital environmental, consumer and worker protections, and the as politicians who support those efforts. Activists in the past have [Quarantined the Kochs](#) and held [Guerrilla Drive-Ins](#) outside their events and offices.

Corporate Crime Scene: Check out a [recent action](#) by Greenpeace in front of the US Chamber of Commerce. "Crime Scene: False Impersonation of a Human Being" has a nice ring to it, and regardless could make a nice sign for your event...

Musical Actions and Flash Mobs: Target got a lot of negative attention when it gave \$150,000 to an extreme anti-worker, anti-gay candidate in Minnesota. Citizen activists responded with a spirited performance, "[Target Ain't People.](#)" The message applies to many other corporations, obviously.

Banner Hangs: Always an excellent way to get visibility. "ExxonMobil=Person?" for instance. Here's a [great example](#) from the Rainforest Action Network.

Occupy Corporate Offices: For the more daring among you, recent [anti-foreclosure actions against Bank of America](#) might be worth checking out.

Human Banner: Tax the 1% - <http://www.humanbannersf.com/>
Endangered Freedoms - <http://spectralq.com/Gal27.html>
Step it Up - <http://spectralq.com/Gal10.htm>