

What do they Really Mean?

This week our defining of “Corporate Agenda” terms continues.

Corporate Agenda Term #2: Small Government

What they say:

“Get government off our backs! What we need is a small government.”

What they mean:

- We don't want to deal with government regulation and rules; we should be able to do what we want, when we want.
- We don't want to worry about resources for anyone that becomes disabled or can't work, the poor, their children, the elderly, or anyone without health care – they should have to fend for themselves.
- Rules tie the hands of corporations. We should just trust them to do the right things.
- In the words of Grover Norquist, we need to cut government “to the size where we can drown it in the bathtub.” (Norquist is a right-wing extremist who advocated for abolishing government departments such as the FDA and the Department of Education.)

Corporate Agenda Term #3: Economic Stability

What they say:

“We need to focus on keeping inflation down.”
(Note: Inflation has to do with rising prices of wages and goods)

What they mean:

- It's better if more people (at least 5%) are unemployed so companies don't have to raise wages to attract workers.
- We need to keep flooding our market with cheap goods from foreign producers so there's never a shortage for people to buy – and us to make money on!
- Everything – high unemployment, strong and rapid economic growth, etc. – should take a back seat to policies that prevent inflation.
- We don't want to deal with unions that want higher wages to keep up with rising costs.