

Wondering what you can do to stop corporate abuses?

- Many multinational corporations hold **more economic power than governments**.
- They are **key players in the struggle for human rights**.
- **All** companies have **responsibilities to promote and uphold human rights**.
- Often companies **contribute to human rights abuses**—directly or indirectly.

Join students across the country who are taking action with **SHARE POWER**

No matter how much time you can give, you can make a difference!

When you join the campaign you indicate the level of commitment you can make. It's up to you.

SHARE POWER gives you all the tools you need to **hold large, powerful companies accountable** for their actions.

amnestyusa.org/business/sharepower



A new campaign from the **Corporate Action Network**



BUSINESS & HUMAN RIGHTS
CORPORATE ACTION NETWORK
www.amnestyusa.org/business

WHEREVER BUSINESS GOES, HUMAN RIGHTS WERE THERE FIRST!

SHARE your POWER to end corporate human rights abuses... Use the POWER of SHARES to change the world...

No matter who you are, where you study, where you work, or where you live, you can find your connection to large corporations and use your connection to influence them to change.

JOIN THE SHARE POWER CAMPAIGN!

SHARE POWER is a national grassroots campaign that harnesses the powerful connection between shareholders and companies to advance corporate responsibility for human rights.

As a high school student, you have a lot more power than you may think. Your local governments have investment portfolios, and may hold significant amounts of shares in our target companies. Also, many people you know, like your teachers, are probably members of public unions, which have stock holdings. And don't forget about universities, especially public ones, that view you as potential students—they are particularly sensitive to public opinion. Their endowments and pensions consist in part of investments, making colleges good targets for this campaign.

As shareholders, these groups have the power to raise important issues about the ways that companies are operating that have an impact on human rights—issues that are important to all members of a community. And as students and community members, you have the power to hold your local institutions accountable.

HELP MAKE SURE YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, UNIVERSITIES, AND UNIONS USE THEIR POWER TO UPHOLD HUMAN RIGHTS.

There are so many connections between high school students and corporations. . . **FIND YOURS!**

Many local governments, unions, and universities have investments in companies with exposure to human rights risks, such as Dow Chemical or Chevron Corporation. **As students**, and young citizens, you should encourage these groups to use their power as shareholders to **raise important issues** about the ways such companies are operating, thereby influencing the impact they have on human rights.

Look into your local institutions' endowments and investments . . .

Make sure that they use their power as a shareholder to defend human rights. Find out:

- Who's responsible for the investments?
- Do these institutions have investments in Dow or Chevron? What is their position on the issues raised by Amnesty International?
- Do these institutions have a policy to guide their investment decisions as regards human rights?

Dow in Bhopal, India

More than 7,000 people died within a matter of days when a chemical plant in Bhopal, India owned by the Union Carbide Corporation, UCC, which merged with Dow Chemical Company in 2001, leaked over 35 tons of toxic gases in December of 1984.

Since then, exposure to the toxins has resulted in the **deaths of another 15,000 people** and more than **100,000 people continue to suffer** the devastating effects of the disaster, including chronic, debilitating, largely untreatable illnesses.



A young protester holds sign with Dow and a skull engraved.

Though 20 years have passed, the **survivors still await compensation, adequate medical assistance and treatment, and economic and social rehabilitation**. Since the plant site has yet to be adequately cleaned up, **toxic wastes continue to pollute** the environment and contaminate water that surrounding communities rely on. Dow denies that UCC has any criminal liability for the leak, despite criminal charges still pending in Indian court. **UCC and Dow have stated that they have no further responsibility for the effects of the leak.**

You can help communities in Bhopal and the Amazon by joining the SHARE POWER Campaign
To learn more about these cases visit the **SHARE POWER website**

Chevron in the Amazon

For over four decades, Indigenous communities in Ecuador's Amazon region have witnessed **multinational oil companies cut through their ancestral lands** in search of the country's vast petroleum resources.



A young child plays in Ecuador next to a barrel left by Texaco. Photo by Josh Schacter.

According to environmental reports, between 1972 and 1992, Texaco intentionally **dumped more than 19 billion gallons of toxic wastewaters** and was responsible for **16.8 million gallons of crude oil spilling** from the main pipeline.

By comparison 10.8 million gallons of crude oil were spilled off the Alaskan Coast by the Exxon Valdez tanker in 1989.

Health reports allege that these actions **contaminated both the soil and water** of the communities in the area, **devastating the health of the residents**. Yet Chevron, which merged with Texaco in 1991, has not only refused **to acknowledge any link between the public health hazards and the environmental problems** caused by Texaco, but has also **refused to clean up the pollution**.

You don't need a penny to make multinational companies do what's right!

Learn more about what you can do on the easy-to-use SHARE POWER website!

Follow the **step-by-step guidelines** to develop your SHARE POWER Campaign.

Sign on to the **SHARE POWER Forum** - An easy way to keep track of your campaign progress and connect with other activists nationwide.

Access all the campaign materials you may need online:

- Sample **Letters**
- Sample **press releases**
- **Flyers**
- **Presentations**
- And get **support** from the Corporate Action Network!

[amnestyusa.org/
business/sharepower](http://amnestyusa.org/business/sharepower)

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