

THE POWER OF THE PROXY 8.289

CLEARED FOR RELEASE 04/25/2024 [Economic Battle Plan™ points: 98]

Captured Capital – Return to Free Enterprise Using Proxy Navigator with Scott Shepard

In the realm of corporate America, a silent war is being waged. The use of ESG criteria by major investment houses and corporations is steering our nation's companies away from

their primary mission of shareholder value maximization, toward a socio-political agenda that does not reflect the will of the majority of American investors.

The battle for the soul of American capitalism is underway, with ESG principles threatening the foundational principle of shareholder primacy. By taking informed action, new technology, and promoting a culture of engaged shareholder activism, American



patriots can play a crucial role in ensuring our corporations remain beacons of liberty, opportunity, and free enterprise. We must reclaim our stake in corporate America and steer it back to its proper course.

In this briefing we will discuss the following:

- » Captured Capital The Erosion of Shareholder Influence
- » Proxy Voting and Corporate Biases
- » Proxy Navigator Fighting Back



YOUR MISSION: Learn how to combat the infiltration of ESG in American corporations to protect shareholder interests and promote American liberty, security, and values by restoring shareholder sovereignty and the primacy of free market principles in American corporations using an exciting new tool.



ATTENTION: Large fund managers may be using your investment money to alter the focus of those companies away from profit to further political agendas. Here's how to take your power back!



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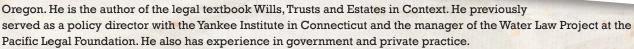
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WHY YOU SHOULD CARE

- » Globalist elites have usurped the voting power of shareholders via proxy voting and are using them to push their evil ESG agendas.
- » The Proxy Navigator tool provides investors with the information they need to make informed decisions when voting their shares.
- » The ESG agenda will cause companies to lose their focus which will detract from profit margins, harming investors.
- » To fight back and save American liberty, security, and values patriotic investors must band together to thwart this globalist elite plot.

Ep. 8-290 (OSINT) Open-Sourced Intelligence Report. This briefing includes a conversation between Kevin Freeman and Scott Shepherd. Scott is a friend of the Economic War Room® and an American Patriot.

Scott Shepard is a fellow at the National Center as well as the director of the National Center's Free Enterprise Project, which is the original and premier opponent of the woke takeover of American corporate life. Scott has taught at law schools including the Wake Forest School of Law in North Carolina and the Willamette University College of Law in





1. Captured Capital – The Erosion of Shareholder Influence

In recent years, major investment firms have used the capital of individual investors to push corporations towards adopting ESG principles as a veneer for political activism.

"It might be the greatest threat to the republic that now exists because, after all, the two things that the ESG mavens are trying to do is to reintroduce race, sex, and orientation discrimination throughout the United States... against straights, against white people, against men... to force hiring on the basis of irrelevant characteristics rather than on the basis of merit. And we're seeing the disaster of that play out at Boeing and in a more ideological sense at Disney ... and many other companies. And then the other



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thing that they're doing is trying to capture and make very expensive, unreliable, and unavailable energy. And, I mean, nobody needs to say that twice. Energy is the font of all human life and all life and certainly all freedom. So it really is an existential threat."

—Scott Shepard

This sleight of hand was empowered by the convenience of managed pools of stock, like ETFs.

ETFs, mutual funds, and index funds give their managers control over stocks in which they invest. This has been a concession of power from individual investors.

However, using proxy votes, these fund managers have been able to make major

decisions like executive compensation packages to steer companies in a specific direction.

"Companies are supposed to be owned by their shareholders. And the index fund or the mutual fund is a pass-through. It's an ability to hold it on behalf of someone else." –Kevin Freeman



These fund managers have managed to gain power over corporate action and strategy by using other pe

over corporate action and strategy by using other people's capital. Many of these funds include the retirement savings and pension plans of the American workforce. Some are even funds for active service members or military veterans and are being used to invest in Chinese tech companies while using ESG as an excuse to undermine American firms.

"The question is whose capital is it? If it's a retirement fund, the retirees worked all their lives to save that money. That's their money... their ideology should decide it. And for investors, it's their capitalism, these investment houses that talk about responsible capitalism. What they're doing is stealing the power of other people's capital in order to push their political policy preferences. That's much closer to the genuine definition of fascism than to any kind of capitalism." –Scott Shepard

Authentic corporate governance should prioritize shareholder interests and company performance, not ideological goals masquerading as social or environmental concerns.



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The power given to a shareholder to vote for a company to move in a certain direction should belong to the shareholder and not be wielded by a fund manager.



Attention: Large fund managers are using other people's capital to alter the focus of American companies away from profit to further their political agendas.

2. Proxy Voting and Corporate Biases

These fund managers have been able to control companies by using proxy voting, which allows shareholder to have someone else vote in their stead.

Many funds will offer proxy voting as a convenient tool to sift through complicated documents on your behalf.

In other funds, the shares are owned by the fund manager and investors own shares in the fund, not in individual stocks. This means the fund manager has the right to the votes, without using their own money to acquire them.

"Every year a company is required to have an annual general meeting, which is a meeting of shareholders. And for that meeting, they send out a ballot of the things that shareholders are going to be able to vote on that year. And it includes nomination and re-nominations for directors of the company and some random things and then shareholder proposals, proposals that have been sent by organizations, including ours or



larger shareholders to try to influence the direction the company is moving in. And so in prior days if you own ten shares of AT&T, you could go vote those ten shares of AT&T. But what's happened if you own ten shares of an ETF, those ballots go to whoever sponsors the ETF BlackRock, State Street, Vanguard, and then they get to vote their shares." –Scott Shepard



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Fund managers have a fiduciary duty to ensure their investment decisions are in the best interests of their customers. However, ESG policies are not necessarily in the best interest of American investors.

In fact, most Americans don't want woke policies in their investments, they just want their investments to grow.

"Here's what the left and the ESG movement does. It pretends that it's neutral and it's just doing good for everybody. But that's impossible. What it's actually doing is trying to force corporations to adopt the whole of government initiatives... they're directly partisan. We, on the other hand, have



fought for companies not to take right-wing positions, but just to go back to absolutely neutral, to do their fiduciary duty, and to stay out of social and political controversies unless it directly affects their bottom line." –Scott Shepard

Corporations should not be overtly political unless it directly affects their bottom line. For instance, opposing taxes that would increase their costs and negatively impact shareholders.

The left tries to pretend that ESG and Woke policies will benefit everyone, but example after example shows that it is not benefiting shareholders.



Attention: Proxy voting has allowed globalist elites to push woke agendas on American corporations, killing them from within.

3. Proxy Navigator - Fighting Back

In the face of such evil, Scott Shepard and the team at the National Center's Free Enterprise Project have developed new technology to inform investors and work to restore American capitalism.



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"We put together an app, it's a web browser tool as well, called Proxy Navigator, and all year it will offer all sorts of information about these companies. So if you want to know who's woke, who's left, according to the 1792 exchange, to the Viewpoint Diversity Index, to Red Balloon, we're going to be adding others... You can see their analyses right there on



the app. But perhaps most importantly as shareholder season starts, you [and your investment advisor] can use your control numbers from your proxy ballots to vote your shares... in favor of your policy preferences. And if you're on our side of the bench, we provide recommendations." –Scott Shepard

The Proxy Navigator tool empowers shareholders to reclaim their voice by providing clear guidance on how to vote in line with free market principles.

This tool, along with others like the 1792 Exchange's Corporate Bias Rating, provides American investors with the information they need to make informed decisions when they vote their shares.

"We're going to give smaller investors the chance to have their voice heard and to pull it back from the large companies. But we're also going to illustrate that, all of the claims that everybody agrees with these left-wing propositions are false. It'll help us to push BlackRock and State Street and Vanguard and the advisory services to drop their partisanship. And if that doesn't work, there might be some lawsuits behind it. But we're going to give center-right Americans a voice with their shares, and we're going to be able to build pressure to knock off this attempt to seize the controls of the Republic and it's effectively to destroy it." —Scott Shepard

Hopefully, this movement of informed investors will push back on BlackRock, State Street, and Vanguard, and prove that the American people do not want ESG and it does not benefit shareholders.

If not, the fight will require lawsuits. These will be founded on the fact that ESG investments were not aligned with the fiduciary duty of fund managers.



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Voting for any executive compensation package that has incentivized political ideology over company profits is a breach of fiduciary duty.

Shareholders have lost millions of dollars to ESG practices and companies remain woke, even after backlash from customers because making money is not what incentivizes the executives anymore.

This has stripped investors of their voting power and has limited the power of the people to vote with their pocketbooks to remind corporations that the American people are ultimately in charge.



Attention: The Proxy Navigator tool keeps you informed when you vote your shares and is the next step in the fight for economic liberty and free enterprise.





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ACTION STEPS:

- 1. Download and use the <u>Proxy Navigator tool</u> to make informed decisions when voting your shares, ensuring your voice is heard in corporate elections.
- 2. Visit <u>FreeEnterpriseProject.org</u> to learn more about the impact of ESG on corporate America and your investments.
- 3. Read Kevin's new book <u>Pirate Money</u> to learn more about a solution to CBDC, the globalist elite's next step toward total control.
- 4. Stay informed about the companies in your investment portfolio, especially their stance on and reactions to ESG pressures. Use this information to make investment decisions that align with your values.
- 5. If you have a financial advisor, nominate them for the National Security Investment Consultant (NSIC) Institute where we train financial advisors to protect American Liberty, Security, and Values.

ONGOING ACTION STEPS:

- 1. Seek opportunities to inspire other Americans to stand up for what is right.
- 2. Send them this Economic Battle Plan™ and ask them what they are doing to stand for America and Liberty!
 - » Elect Politicians that understand the need to preserve American Liberty.
 - » Encourage and ask your elected officials to educate themselves.
 - » Ask them how they are working to strengthen our education system and reverse the push for Marxist indoctrination. These are big issues, if your representatives are not aware and working toward solutions directly or indirectly based on their committees, hold them accountable!
- 3. Watch out for programmable money. The Dollar is being attacked and the WEF is working toward The Great Reset. We want to see the dollar stay strong by acting on the items above. We also believe it is good for Americans to diversify and have other options to pay with transactional gold. Prepare your money for the coming war.

Your support for Transactional Gold and Silver Currency is critical! We have legislation advancing in 20+ states! Learn about progress in your state at https://transactionalgold.com/ and click the "Active States" button in the upper right-hand corner.



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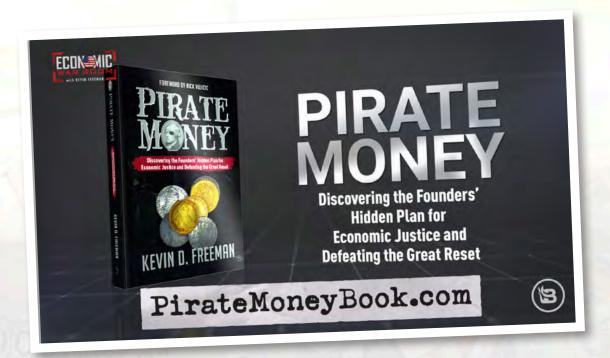
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4. Check your investments to see if they are helping fund the agendas of Globalist Elites. If you have a financial advisor insist that they give you an update and encourage them to become part of the NSIC.

Seek out investment opportunities in patriotic innovations. Financial Advisors can learn more at www.NSIC.org. Weaponize your money, your investing, spending, and giving!



5. Be certain to buy Kevin's new book, *Pirate Money: Discovering the Founders' Hidden Plan for Economic Justice and Defeating the Great Reset.* Learn more at www.PirateMoneyBook.com.





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In the **Economic War Room**[®], we encourage Americans to be the "little ships that make the difference." You cannot solely rely on the government or the president to solve America's problems. You have to make a difference. It is up to you to help take our country back and create a voice for economic liberty. [The little ships are based on Churchill's Operation Dynamo that rescued the British Expeditionary Forces in the Miracle of Dunkirk.]

SHAREABLE QUOTES:

"Stealing the power of other people's capital in order to push political policy preferences...

That's much closer to the genuine definition of fascism than to any kind of capitalism."

-Scott Shepard, Free Enterprise Project Director & General Counsel

"Money's been used as a weapon to engage corporations for political ends and purposes, and that's the real threat."

-Kevin Freeman, CFA

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The EWR Collection Deck – From Kevin Freeman (List of resources and external links for more information)

Quick Access Links:

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Captured Capital – The Erosion of Shareholder Influence

Proxy Voting and Corporate Biases

Proxy Navigator – Fighting Back

Action Steps

About LSV and the NSIC

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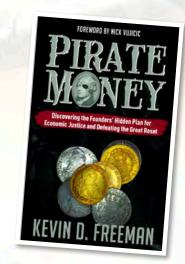
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https://www.economicwarroom.com/episodes and https://www.economicwarroom.com/battleplans.

Check out these in particular with application to this topic:

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08/03/2023, EP252, Pirates Knew What Real Money Was, So Did the Founders, and Now You Will Too,

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05/25/23, EP242, Warning from a formerly Woke Professor, Dr. Michael Rectenwald, <u>Download Economic Battle Plan™</u>



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About Scott Shepard

About Scott Shephard https://nationalcenter.org/ncppr/staff/scott-shepard/

Free Enterprise Project on Twitter https://twitter.com/FreeEntProject



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National Center's Youtube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFrgtYxKOBuDqXavBuK0FFA

Scott Shepherd at Real Clear Politics https://www.realclearmarkets.com/authors/scott shepard/

Scott Shepard: How FEP Has Been Putting Pressure on Woke Companies This Year https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNKcKgEdDgo&list=PLf4wzJaPlbAPqkObcABpzLBbB7vxiArID

Formerly In the Soviet Union, the Locus of Evil Resides In Davos

https://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2022/12/12/formerly_in_the_soviet_union_the_locus_of_evil_resides_in_davos_869320.html

As Target Plays Politics, Its Shareholders Take Aim

https://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2023/06/09/as_target_plays_politics_its_shareholders_take_aim_939592.html

What a Real, Fully Capitalist Energy Transition Would Look Like

https://www.realclearmarkets.com/blog/2023/05/20/what_a_real_fully_capitalist_energy_transition_would_look_like_900679.html

Is Emperor Larry Fink Silencing the Critics of His ESG Regime?

https://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2023/05/11/is_emperor_larry_fink_silencing_the_critics_of_his_esg_regime_898748.html

It's Congress's Turn to Address Chase's Discriminatory Banking Practices

https://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2023/05/06/its_congresss_turn_to_address_chases_discriminatory_banking_practices_897854.html

PARTISAN BIAS SHOT THROUGH OPERATIONS AT VANGUARD, STATE STREET

https://nationalcenter.org/ncppr/2023/11/14/scott-shepard-partisan-bias-shot-through-operations-at-vanguard-state-street/

CAN CORPORATIONS REALLY TRUST THE CONFERENCE BOARD?

https://nationalcenter.org/ncppr/2023/11/17/scott-shepard-can-corporations-really-trust-the-conference-board/

THE MONTH THE NET-ZERO DREAM DIED

https://nationalcenter.org/ncppr/2023/11/07/scott-shepard-october-2023-the-month-the-net-zero-dream-died/

ELON MUSK IS RIGHT ABOUT GEORGE SOROS'S EFFORTS TO WRECK THE ANGLOSPHERE

https://nationalcenter.org/ncppr/2023/11/07/scott-shepard-elon-musk-is-right-about-george-soross-efforts-to-wreck-the-anglosphere/

GERMAN ELECTIONS SOUND DEATH KNELL FOR 'DECARBONIZATION'

https://nationalcenter.org/ncppr/2023/11/01/scott-shepard-german-elections-sound-death-knell-for-decarbonization/



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JPM & BOFA CHOOSE POLITICS OVER FIDUCIARY DUTIES

https://nationalcenter.org/ncppr/2023/10/02/scott-shepard-jpm-bofa-choose-politics-over-fiduciary-duties/

The Shareholder Activism of Anti-Discrimination Proponents
https://corpgov.law.harvard.edu/2024/04/11/the-shareholder-activism-of-anti-discrimination-proponents/#more-164247

Captured Capital - The Erosion of Shareholder Influence

The U.S. Corporate State Has Become The Monarch Our Founders Despised https://www.occupy.com/article/us-corporate-state-has-become-monarch-our-founders-despised#sthash. HVY0AFhK.dpbs

BlackRock CEO slammed for 'force behaviors' comment after 2017 interview re-emerges about DEI initiatives https://www.foxbusiness.com/politics/blackrock-ceo-slammed-force-behaviors-dei-initiatives

BlackRock and the \$15 trillion fund industry should be broken up, antimonopoly group says https://www.cnn.com/2020/11/24/business/blackrock-vanguard-state-street-biden/index.html

Ron DeSantis's war on woke puts BlackRock on the frontline https://www.ft.com/content/ce5bb64d-83dc-4aaa-bcf8-6506732b9b4e

BlackRock, State Street and Vanguard are 'arguably the most powerful cartel in human history' https://finance.yahoo.com/news/blackrock-state-street-vanguard-arguably-211002034.html

BlackRock, State Street subpoenaed by U.S. House in ESG probe

https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/sustainable-finance-reporting/blackrock-state-street-get-subpoenaed-by-house-esg-probe-bloomberg-news-2023-12-15/

These Three Firms Own Corporate America

https://theconversation.com/these-three-firms-own-corporate-america-77072

Hidden Power of the Big Three

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315432577 Hidden Power of the Big Three Passive Index Funds Re-Concentration of Corporate Ownership and New Financial Risk

The Hidden Dangers of the Great Index Fund Takeover

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Two Companies Control 99% of the World's Productive Assets – and Driving the 'Great Reset' https://needtoknow.news/2021/09/two-companies-control-99-of-the-worlds-productive-assets-and-driving-the-great-reset/

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Action Steps

Download and use the <u>Proxy Navigator tool</u> to make informed decisions when voting your shares, ensuring your voice is heard in corporate elections.

Visit <u>FreeEnterpriseProject.org</u> to learn more about the impact of ESG on corporate America and your investments.

Read Kevin's new book <u>Pirate Money</u> to learn more about a solution to CBDC, the globalist elite's next step toward total control.

Make sure your financial advisor is trained by NSIC www.NSIC.org

Subscribe to BLAZETV (Use the code ECON) https://blazetv.com/econ

Read Kevin Freeman's book, According to Plan www.Accordingtoplanbook.com/ewr

Watch The Economic War Room episode on the Economic War of the Heart

Read Kevin Freeman's newest book, Pirate Money http://piratemoneybook.com/

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