## Marbury v. Madison [1803] The Supreme Court ruled that they were supreme, power to make law.

U.S. Constitution [1789]

"No person held in Service or Labour in one State. under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due." [Art.3, Sec.2]

Slavery, Democracy, Corporation.

Revolutionary War

"slave" or "slavery" they made slavery legal and

Three words not found in the Constitution:

Shays' Rebellion [1

ratified, but the state revoked that

and Congress did not contest it. This gave them the

commenting on Marbury v. Madison.

is a mere thing of wax in the hands of the judiciary, which they may twist and shape into any form they please." -Then-president Thomas Jefferson

Dartmouth College v. Woodward [1819]

This decision turned a corporate charter from a governmentgranted privilege into a contract that can not be altered by government. The word "corporation" does not appear in the Constitution, and this ruling gave the corporation standing in the Constitution. It also made it difficult for the government to control corporations, so states began to write controls into the charters they granted. The Supreme

Court had "found" the corporation in the Constitution.

is not democracy.

Judge made law

Corporate lawyers argued that unde privileges and immunities clause, corporation are not citizens under Article 4, Section 2 "The citizens of each State shall be entitled to

several States."

Paul v. Virginia [18 all privileges and immunities of citizens in the

The Supreme Court said: "...the main purpose of the last three Amendments (13, 14, 15) was the freedom that freedom and their protection from the oppression of the white men who had formerly held them in slave Corporations were not included in these protections.

## The Railroad Tax Cases [1882]

Nobel v. Union River Logging [18] had intended the word person to mean corporations as well as natural persons

Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad [18] to the Constitution, which forbids a State to deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws, applies to corporations. We are all of the opinion that it does." nis statement by the Supreme Court before the hearing began gave corporations inclusion in the word "person" in the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and claim to ec under law. (The case was decided on other grounds.)

Railroad v. Beckwith [1 protect corporations from state Supreme Court rules a corporation is a "person" They did not actually rul on personhood.

*Hale v. Henkel* [1906] 'search and seizure" protection. Justice Harlan disagreed on this point "...the power of the government, by its representatives, to look into the books,

> law, will be greatly curtailed, if not destroyed." "substantive due process." From 1905 until the

mid 1930s the Court invalidated approximately

200 economic regulations, usually under the

Plessy v. Ferguson [1896]

corporation is organized and carried on prim for the profit of the stockholders. The power

the directors are to be employed for that en

"Stockholder Primacy" is established. Th

Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon [1922 just compensation." A regulation is deemed a takings. freedom of speech that would be applied to the states through

The State of Pennsylvania passed a law saying it was illegal to dig under houses causing them to collapse. The Supreme Court overturned this law. Entire towns were undermined for coal extraction and sank as a res Corporations have used the takings clause ever since to oppose and thwart environmental laws. Taking compensation is the basis for NAFTA and WTO.

Four places where corporations have been granted powers in the Constitution:
Contracts Clause, Interstate Commerce Clause,
Property Rights, and Personhood Rights which includes
14th Amendment, Bill of Rights, and Civil Rights Legislation. taxes on chain stores. The Supreme Court overturned

the 14th Amendment. The Court ruled that the corporation was

free to sell advertising in newspapers without being taxed. Thi

is the first 1st Amendment protection for corporations

Taft-Hartley Act [19 in the union certification process, usurping worker's right to "freedom of association" and greatly weakening the Labor Relations Act of 1935

U.S.enters World War II

U.S.ground troops in Vietnam War [1963]

Since 1886, every time natural people won new rights

like the Civil Rights Act – corporations became eligible for them as well.

*See v. Seattle* [1967]

to enter and inspect commercial premises

protection from random inspection by fire departments.

The Court framed the question in terms of "business enterprises,

Ross v. Bernhard [19

corporate or otherwise. An administrative warrant is necessary

jury trial in a civil case. The Court implie that the corporation has this right because a

is equivalent to speech. This ruling expanded the 1st Amendment's protections to include financia contributions to candidates or parties.

policy of denying such rights to non-media corporations. This pre is used with *Buckley v. Valeo* to thwart attempts to remove corporate money from politics

First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti [197]

spending on political referenda. The Court reverses its longstand

corporation successfully uses the 5th Amendment to protect itself against double jeopardy to avoid retrial in an anti-trust case.

Marshall v. Barlow [1978]

Buckley v. Valeo [1976] Pacific Gas & Electric v. Public Utilities Commission 1986 The Supreme Court decided that PG&E was not required to

allow a consumer advocacy group to use the extra space in their billing envelope, upholding the corporation's right **not** to speak and protecting the corporation's freedom of min

of Commerce [1]

First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti [197]

Dissent by Justices White, Brennan, Marshall: "...the special status of

economic power which may, if not regulated, dominate not only our

U.S. v. Martin Linen Supply [1976]

This case gave corporations the 4th Amendment right to require OSH safety violations.

Pacific Gas & Electric v.

Public Utilities Commission

[1986] Dissent by Justices Rehnquist,

White, Stevens: "To ascribe to such entities an

"intellect" or "mind" for freedom of conscience

purposes, is to confuse metaphor with reality."

Austin v. Michigan Chamber

in candidate elections. 1st Amendment rights can be infringed if state has a compelling interest

v. Amestoy [1996]

hormone. The right not to speak inheres in political statements of fact as well as statements of opinion.

Money is equivalent to Speech.
A corporation has the right to speak.

The Supreme Court heard arguments whether purposeful untruths in advert A corporation has the right not to speal The right not to speak includes fact as are protected political speech before send the case back to a California court where it was settled in Kasky's favor, finding that the to speak lies remains unsettled.

Citizens United v. Federal Elections Comm. [2010

Supreme Court overturned most provisions of McCain-Feingo

authority to regulate federal elections. Most explicit justification

legislation that restricted corporate money in federal election

and reversed a hundred-year precedent of Congressional

of "corporate personhood" by the Court.

*Nike v. Kasky* [2003]

Afghan War Iraq War

[England 1772]
An English judge rules slavery does not exist in England.
A slave becomes free by stepping on English soil. The colonists wonder if slavery will soon be abolished in all English colonies. Runaway slaves attempt to flee to

## Bill of Rights [1791 The first 10 Amendments to the

Constitution were adopted to protect We the People from excesses of government. At this time, We the People meant only white males who owned property and were over 21 years old. The states decided how much property must be owned to qualify to vote or run for office. (New Jersey white women who met property and residency requirements

States begin to loosen Property requirements for white males to obtain voting and citizenship rights. [1820-1850]

Somersett's Case.

could vote when the Constitution was

and "have no rights a court must respect.

This decision is the functional opposite of

place subject to its jurisdiction. Section 2 of the Constitution

Civil War Begins

14th Amendment [1868] Dred Scott v. Sanford [185] Black males are now Citizens of the U.S Supreme Court decides that slaves are propert ...nor shall any State deprive any person of and Congress cannot deprive citizens of their life, liberty, or property without due proces property. Slaves are "not citizens of any state of law; nor deny to any **person** within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

It was this second use of the word "person" that

Black males get the right to vote. "The right of citizens...to vote shall not be denied or abridged...on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

equal protection clause, the U.S. Constitution established that their right to vote could not be denied by the state. The Supreme Court rejected this stating that the 14th Amendment was only intended to apply to black males.

corporate lawyers argued should be applied to corporatio

Susan B. Anthony went to the polls and ca a vote in 1872, justifying her right to vote the 14th Amendment. The case never were o the Supreme Court, but she was four guilty in a lower court.

**Union Pacific Strike** [1885]

1,000,000 + copies sold, 100 + groups formed

enforcing segregation by race are constitution if separate accommodations are equal. Black males effectively lost 14th Amendment

**Great Southwest Strike** [1886]

rights and much access to the "white world."

Pullman and Great Northern Strike [1894] Social Change in 1886

> \*Campaign for the 8 hour work day. \*Knights of Labor membership 1,000,000 with 60,000 Black and even more women members. \*Farmers Alliance has 100,000 members \*Populists draw up founding document The Cleburne Demand \*Eugene Debs builds the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen \*Das Kapital by Karl Marx published in English \*Looking Backwards by Edward Bellamy [1887

The Supreme Court ruled that state laws

Of the 14th Amendment cases

between 1890 and 1910,

288 dealt with corporations

brought before the Supreme Coun

19 dealt with African Americans

records and papers of a corporation of it

own creation, to ascertain whether that

corporation has obeyed or is defying the

of struggle. "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be deni State on account of sex.'

Corporate Personhood is the Legal Fiction that Property is a Person.

Slavery is the Legal Fiction

that a Person is Property.

Timeline of Personhood Rights and Powers

the law citing the due process and equal protection

Commerce Clause. Wal-mart and other chains can no

clause of the 14th Amendment and the Interstate

be banned by law from towns on this precedent.

corporate form were inherent in the citizen; and has lehem to accept the evils attendant upon the free and unrestricted use of the corporate mechanism as if these evils were the inescapable price of civilized life, and hence to be borne with resignation. Throughout the greater part of our history a different view prevailed."

neutrality when it came to the self-organization of workers.

any way with a union drive.

protections. "[A corporation] cannot be said to be deprived of freedom of speech and of assembly, for the liberty guaranteed by the due process clause is the liberty of natural, not artificial persons."

Justice Black dissents: "I do not believe the word "person" in the It was a violation of the Act if an employer interfered i

The Court denies an incorporated la'

union 1st Amendment rights. Only the

24th Amendment [1964] Poll taxes, which were used to keep "There was no history, logic or reason given to support that view nor was the result so obvious that exposition was unnecessary

> Brown v. Board of Educ. of Topeka [1954] Public schools cannot be racially segregated. Often said to have overturned Plessy. The Supreme Court recognized that separate was not equal.

> > Civil Rights Act [1964]

as a qualification for voting, established the Commissio on Equal Employment Opportunity, and ended discrimination in public facilities.

is legalized in the first trimester of pregnancy. **Reed v. Reed** [1971]

Women get the 14th Amendment. There were had equal protection. This was the case in which the 14th was ruled to apply to women

> Passed to recognize that if 18-year-olds cou be drafted into military service, they should be

The Supreme Court rules that state statutes against abortion are vague and infringe on a woman's 9th and 14th

**Roe v. Wade** [1973]

Amendment rights (to privacy). Abortion

Blacks and others from voting in som states, were abolished. "The right... to vote...shall not be denied...by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

26th Amendment [1

economy but the very heart of our democracy, the electoral process... Rehnquist also dissented: "The blessings of perpetual life and limited liability...so beneficial in the economic sphere, pose special dangers

Wal-Mart v. Dukes [2011 only bring class action suits if there is proo

Battle for Seattle WTO protest [1999]

Occupy Wall Street [2011]

More about this timeline

www.MoveToAmend.or

female workers earn far less and get fewer promotions than men will not suffice.

Move to Amend

oug Hammerstrom, Bill Meyers, Molly Morgan, Mary Zepernick, Anne Morris, and Richard Grossman. Thanks to Carl Mayer for his article "Personalizing the Impersonal." Early supporters of this work include The Alliance for Democracy, The Program on Corporations Law and Democracy and The Women's International League for Peace & Freedom