Philip Warton

Professor Azadeh Gahnizadeh

Writing 222 – English Composition

7 November 2018

Proposal?

Dirty money. Dirty stinky money. Smells like corruption. When you think of a bribe you probably imagine a criminal in a trench coat paying off a policeman or something like that. However, in America today there is no secrecy surrounding bribes, it's done in the wide open. Figures like the Koch brothers and have their hands in every pot, using their wealth to control every aspect of our political system from the media, to campaigning, and even having partial control over the decisions made in congress. While there are many components to creating this kind of power, a large part of this stems from our current campaign finance system, specifically the existence of Super PACs. There are no caps on the amount of money individuals or corporations can donate to these Super PAC's. Though these organizations are not supposed to communicate or cooperate with the campaign directly, but many play fast and loose with this rule, and the enforcement of it is quite underwhelming. This allows large corporations to donate unlimited amounts of money to campaigns (though technically indirectly) giving these companies power over whose campaign is successful. Politicians have an incentive to treat these special interest groups very well, and this shapes how our policy is formed here in the United States. Politics plays favorites towards the industries that give them the most money, because that's how you get reelected in the American democracy. The Citizens United court ruling should be overturned in order to give corporations and special interest groups less power in our political system.