

Title: If I was on the finance sub committee

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I personally think the markets are too complex and that most people have no idea how it works. It would not surprise me if the people on this sub committee do not have the knowledge that reddit has gained. As a result, I think it is important to serve this all up on a silver platter for them as best as possible. Below are the questions that I would ask along with supporting documents as needed.

1. What does it mean when Short Interest (SI) is over 100%? Is 250% Short Interest possible? Should we be concerned if SI is that high as more than something now actually exists?
2. If SI is over 100%, does that mean that more than 100% of shareholders could vote thus diluting actual votes? Per the sec paper (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) " Through most of 2020, GME's short interested hovered around 100% as a percentage of public float."

From (<https://www.sec.gov/comments/s7-08-08/s70808-318.pdf>) (<https://www.sec.gov/comments/s7-08-08/s70808-318.pdf>) "They also inflate the number of shares that are voted at the annual meeting. Apfel et al. (2001) cite the example of a proxy battle for control of Integrated Circuit Systems, Inc. in 1998. Twenty-two broker-dealers mailed proxies for more shares than they had in their accounts at the DTC, and the aggregate excess amounted to more than 10 percent. "

1. Who is credited with Payment For Order Flow and the Market Maker Exception, which allows for naked shorting?
2. Can you detect naked shorting without being told it is occurring? Per the sec paper (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) "Because direct measures of naked short selling do not exist ..."
3. Should FTDs be used as a proxy to learn about naked shorting? Per the SEC paper (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) "... fails to deliver can be used to learn about naked short selling. "
4. (applies to next few questions) In January when buying was turned off, wholesales internalized many trades Per the SEC paper (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) (<https://www.sec.gov/files/staff-report-equity-options-market-struction-conditions-early-2021.pdf>) " The vast majority of GME stock trades executed off exchange in January 2021 were internalized (approximately 80%) as opposed to executed on ATSS. "
5. Do internalized trades impact price?
6. If the SI was over 130%, and most of the buying pressure was retail, but that was internalized, did the stock reflect its true price?
7. Does that mean turning off buying was instantly helpful to wholesales because they internalized the trade/took the opposite direction?
8. Do you have any mechanism that tracks how many shares are in circulation vs how many there should be excluding SI by looking at the brokers vs Cede & Co?
9. What's the reason that the company and the booking agent (ie Computershare) can not encourage shareholders to register shares in their names?
10. Does the stock borrow program facilitate naked shorting? (<https://www.sec.gov/comments/s7-08-08/s70808-318.pdf>) (<https://www.sec.gov/comments/s7-08-08/s70808-318.pdf>) "The stock borrow program can facilitate naked shorting in two ways. First, sellers can continue to fail to deliver because the NSCC can borrow the shares it needs to meet its clearing obligations through the stock borrow program. It does not have to force the seller who fails to deliver to buy in shares, nor does it have to go into the market to buy in the shares. It simply borrows them from another member firm to effect the buy-in. Since the NSCC covers the short position, the buyer of the stock also never has to buy them in. Second, the stock borrow

program allows the shares to be recycled. Each stock loan gives rise to another stock futures contract. Any single share could actually be lent multiple times, giving rise to multiple futures contracts. Each futures contract credited to a broker-dealer's sub-account at the DTC continues to be reported on the broker-dealer's books as a share held either in its proprietary account or in a customer account. In either case, the account holder believes he owns a real share with all the rights attached to it. Consequently, the stock borrow program effectively creates additional unauthorized shares of the issuer's stock. "

11. Do you have a way to audit reported short positions vs actual short positions?

12. Do you actively monitor if options are being used to satisfy FTDs? ([<https://www.sec.gov/about/offices/ocie/options-trading-risk-alert.pdf>])(<https://www.sec.gov/about/offices/ocie/options-trading-risk-alert.pdf>))

While the bona fide market making exception to the locate requirement makes it more likely that market makers, or purported market makers, would engage in the trading described, the same analysis with respect to sham close-outs would apply to similar arrangements between any market participants. For example, a recent case found that a clearing firm violated Reg SHO by allowing its customers to use buy-writes to appear to satisfy their obligations and the clearing firm's Rule 204 close-out obligation. According to the opinion, the customer used deep-in-the-money calls as part of the buy writes, and these calls were generally exercised the same day they were sold and assigned to the customer and shares were not delivered. In that matter, the clearing firm was found to have willfully violated its close-out obligations under Rule 204 and to have caused and willfully aided and abetted Rule 10b-5 and Rule 10b-21 violations by its customer. I "

Edit 1: words