

Money and speech - campaign finance reform and the courts

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[11.4] Money and Elections

Key Terms

- political action committees (PACs)
- subsidy
- FECA,
- BCRA,
- 'soft money'
- Federal Election Commission
- Super PAC
- Presidential Election Campaign Fund
- hard money
- John McCain
- Russ Feingold
- 527 organizations

- Learning, Psychology of.
 Mathematics -- Study and teaching (Elementary)
 Matejko, Jan, 1838-1893 -- Exhibitions.
 Afghanistan -- Economic conditions
 Afghanistan -- Commerce
 Metals -- Fatigue.
 Materials -- Fatigue.
 Perpetual calendars -- History.
 Calendars -- History.
 Church calendar -- History.
 Law reform -- United States.
 Campaign funds -- Law and legislation -- United States --
 History.Money and speech - campaign finance reform and the courts
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Campaign finance

The challenge to the act was brought by unlikely political bedfellows, including conservative Senator James Buckley and liberal anti-war candidate Eugene McCarthy. The effects of McCutcheon, like Citizens United, will likely be far-reaching, perhaps even producing noticeable results as early as the upcoming 2014 midterm elections. Others proposed that laws on corporate governance be amended to assure that shareholders vote on political expenditures.

First Amendment: Political Speech and Campaign Finance

Citizens United was bad for our democracy, but it left many important safeguards untouched. The rising cost of elections is particularly evident in the , where a large part of fund-raising and spending involves not the candidates and their parties but PACs , whose campaign activities fall under regulations less stringent than those imposed on political candidates.

Citizens United v. FEC

That's how Rick Perry, running in July 2015 in the Republican presidential primaries, came to give a campaign speech at a superPAC event. With its decision, the Supreme Court overturned election spending restrictions that date back. To learn more about types of restrictions imposed by states, follow the links below each subheading.

Campaign Finance System Of Big Money Now Overshadows Watergate

In Buckley, the Court said limiting what a candidate can spend has a direct impact on his or her free-speech rights. Respecting precedent, though important, is not an ironclad rule, said Roberts in a concurrence. Furthermore, Stevens argued that corporations could threaten Representatives and Senators with negative advertising to gain unprecedented leverage.

Citizens United v. FEC

Constitution preserves for the states all powers not explicitly delegated to the federal government. BCRA imposed bans on soft money money contributed to political parties for purposes other than supporting or opposing a candidate, such as to run voter registration drives , and placed limits on advertising by corporations and PACs immediately preceding an election.

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