

# KNOW THE FACTS. WHAT IS THE TRUTH ABOUT THE "FREEDOM" FOUNDATION/OPT OUT TODAY?



The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today claims to have your best interest in mind, but here are the facts you should know...

## ANTI-LGBTQ

"Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today staff publicly opposed the Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriage arguing that it is a "threat to personal freedom." <sup>1</sup> The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today shares financial ties with groups who supported gay conversion therapy. <sup>2</sup>

## UNDERMINES THE MIDDLE CLASS

The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today has repeatedly opposed increases in the minimum wage. <sup>3</sup> The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today has argued against paid sick days. <sup>4</sup> "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today staff have argued against increasing education funding, claiming it has nothing to do with student success. <sup>5</sup>

## AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS

The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today filed a lawsuit to block policies that would combat climate change and protect the environment. <sup>6</sup> The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today lists "property rights" as a major area of focus and has repeatedly sought to block conservation efforts under this guise. <sup>7</sup>

## ANTI-IMMIGRANT

The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today has strong ties to the controversial American Legislative Exchange Council and has supported some of the group's model legislation. ALEC has a history of promoting anti-immigrant and voter suppression bills in states across the nation. <sup>8, 9</sup>

## ANTI-WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today's staff consistently attacks Planned Parenthood, an organization that is dedicated to providing women's health services, calling them a "radical social organization" <sup>10</sup> and a "baby-killing, body-part brokering, government money consuming machine." <sup>11</sup>

## DOES THIS SOUND LIKE AN ORGANIZATION UPHOLDING NORTHWEST VALUES? LEARN MORE AT ACCOUNTABLENW.ORG

1. Freedom Daily Podcast, June 29, 2015

2. IRS via The National Center for Charitable Statistics, accessed 9/9/2015; Portland Fellowship, accessed 9/9/2015

3. "Rally for \$15 Minimum Wage to Be Held at Yakima McDonald's" Yakima Herald-Republic, April 15, 2015

4. "Nearly 9,000 Hospitalized for Flu in Ohio: Many Didn't Have Paid Sick Days" Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 30, 2015

5. Port Orchard Independent: Guest Column: Leonard, 8/27/2009

6. "Governor Overstepped Bounds With Climate-Change Executive Order, Says Lawsuit" Washington State Wire, 7/23/2010

7. <http://archive.myfreedomfoundation.com/causes/category/de-tali/property-rights.html>

8. [http://alecexposed.org/w/images/2/2d/7K5-No\\_Sanctuary\\_Cities\\_for\\_Illegal\\_Immigrants\\_Act\\_Exposed.pdf](http://alecexposed.org/w/images/2/2d/7K5-No_Sanctuary_Cities_for_Illegal_Immigrants_Act_Exposed.pdf)

9. [http://www.prwatch.org/files/spn\\_national\\_report\\_final.pdf](http://www.prwatch.org/files/spn_national_report_final.pdf) Center for Media and Democracy, accessed May 26, 2015

10. "Freedom Foundation Again Assists An Employee Whose Civil Rights Were Violated By SEIU 775," July 31, 2015

11. Facebook post, July 27, 2015