

**Corporate
Exploitation Zine**
By Qaydu Emdur

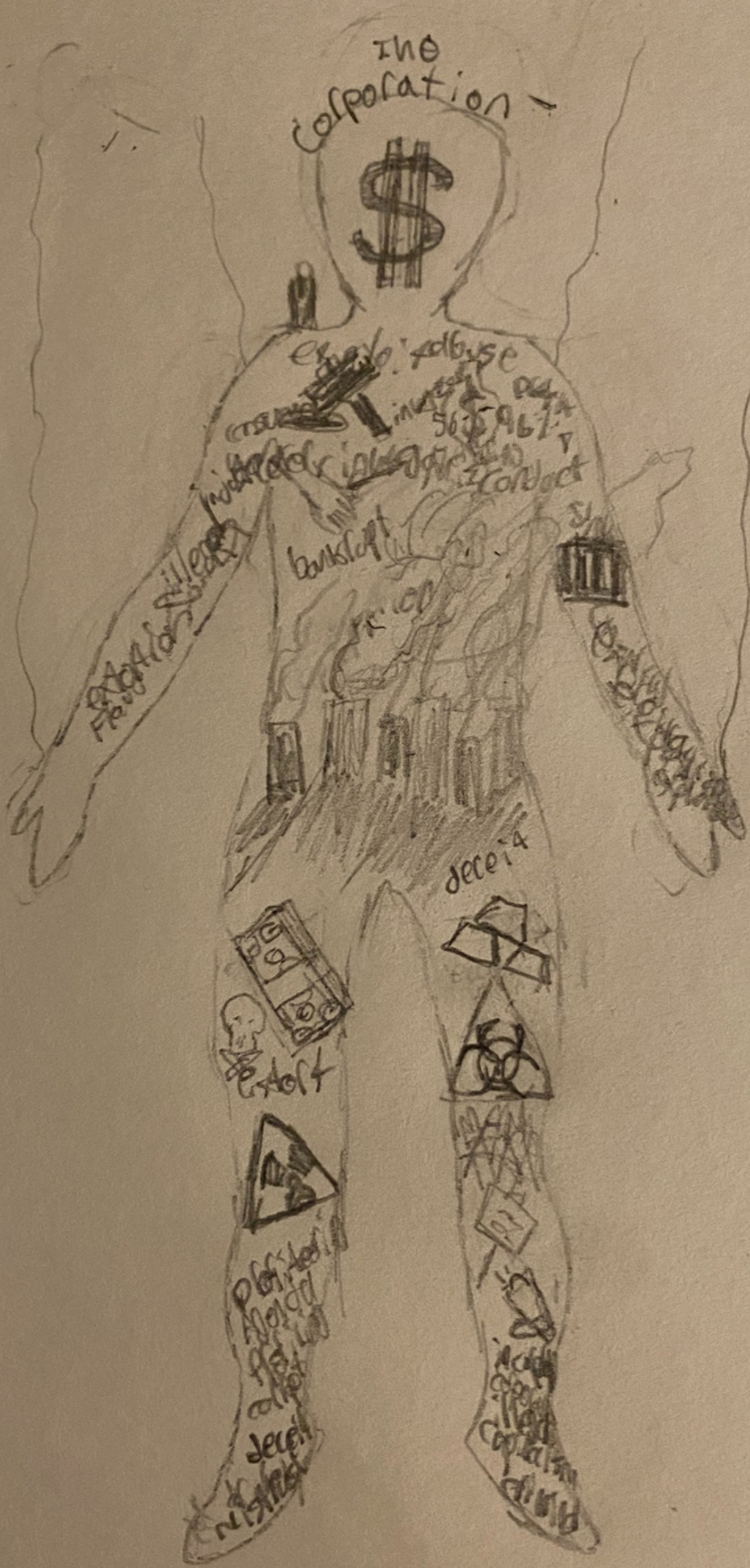


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Poem Submission

*a corporation is by law a person
afforded the rights of a citizen
represented as an individual
But what is their motivation?
and what kind of person
would do the kind of things they do
if a corporation is compared to a person
what kind of person would they be?*





The Corruption of the Corporation

Corporations have a lot of influence on the world and people's lives. Because of this, their actions hold a lot of weight and consequence. So when corporations throw their weight around with corrupt morals, it negatively affects the world. Crony capitalism, exploitation, and lack of transparency are practiced by these corporations. This is because, over anything, the priority of a business is profits. However, big companies take this too far, willing to do anything to cut expenses.

Almost all big corporations rely on externalization. Completely focused on their own self interests. These corporations neglect responsibilities, forcing outside parties to deal with them. And act completely unaccountable for their own actions. For example in developing countries, companies set up factories and recruit local labor. In a 2003 stat, Nike paid their workers in the Dominican Republic 70 cents an hour. And forced them into poor conditions. But because of the circumstances these workers are in (poor economy, poor living conditions.) Nike and other companies are thought of as saviors of the local economy and industry. As they give these people just enough for them to be able to get basic necessities. Offering them the bare minimum. Outsourcing, and externalizing their workers' conditions to circumstance. Even though they could easily help improve their conditions. In fact they take advantage of their circumstances and desperation. A clear example of exploitation.

The sins of large corporations are too many to count. Dangerous products have been released to the public market, containing chemicals correlated to booms in cancer risk rates. Posilac gave rbgh/rbst to livestock which poisoned mass market dairy products and harmed cows. Corporations cause toxic waste and pollution. Corporations involved in legal scandals for breaking antitrust, environmental, or fraud laws and had to pay court mandated fines. With Roche paying up to \$500 million in fines. All of this was due to corporations trying to find some way to maximize their profits. If the dominant institution of our time has been created in the image of a psychopath, who bears the moral responsibility for its actions?

Langston Hughes

"I'm makin' a road
For the rich to sweep over
In their big cars
And leave me standin' here."

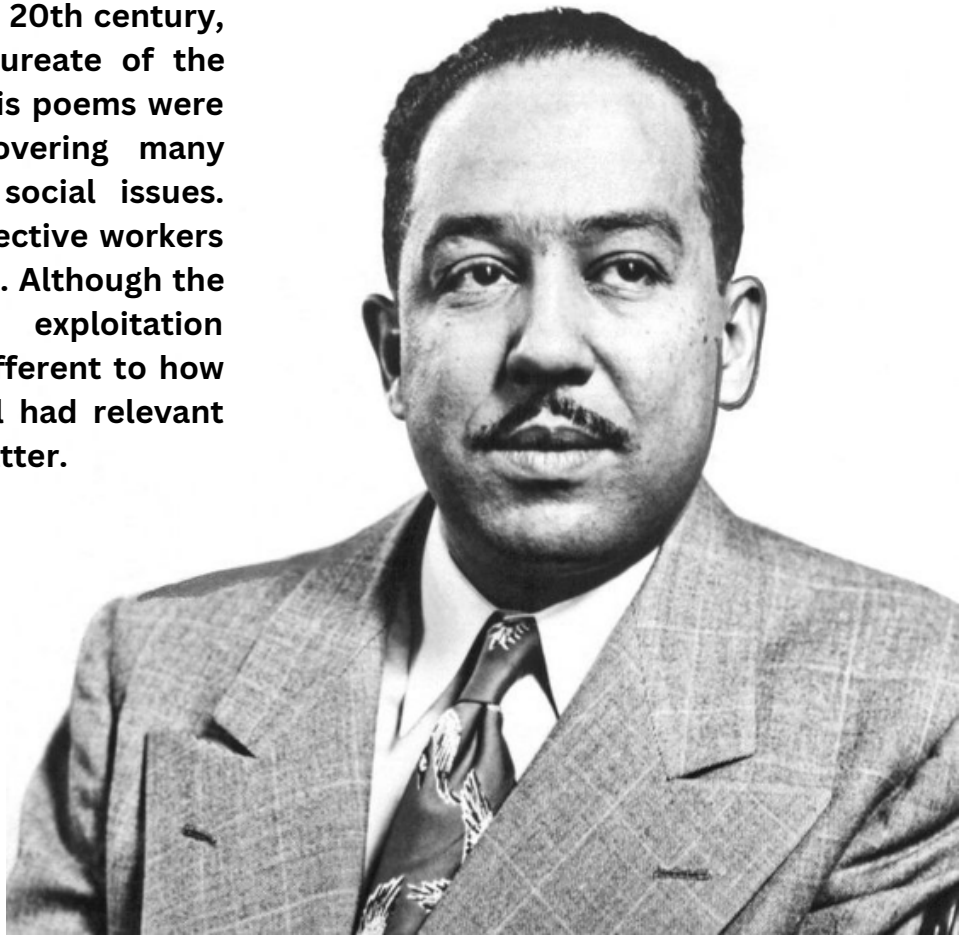
-Excerpt from "Florida Road Workers"
interpreted as commentary on chain
gang labor

"Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed
Let it be that great strong land of love
Where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme
That any man be crushed by one above."

-Excerpt from "Let America Be America Again"

Bio

Langston Hughes is one of the most influential poets in American history. Active during the early 20th century, he was thought as laureate of the Harlem renaissance. His poems were socially conscious covering many different topics and social issues. Focusing on the perspective workers and lower class people. Although the shape of corporate exploitation during his time was different to how we see it now, he still had relevant commentary on the matter.



"Politics can be the graveyard of the poet. And only poetry can be his resurrection."

Zine by Qaydu Emdur

Bio:

I was taught from an early age to be socially conscious, so I always saw examples of corporate exploitation throughout my life. It has impacted my life as my father worked for an exploitative pharmaceutical company. Which put him in poor working conditions and abused other workers. Because of that, I have been motivated to do more research on injustice and corruption in the corporate world.

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