

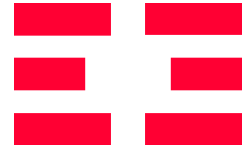
shutterstock

# Shutterstock

Locations: New York (HQ)

Industries: Commercial and Professional Services

RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

## DESCRIPTION:

Shutterstock scored a 100 on the 2023 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. By complying with the HRC's controversial demands, Shutterstock, a global creative platform, increases the risk of dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. The company covers transgender-related medical costs for its employees and their children and provides specific sexual orientation and gender identity-based benefits. It also uses sex and gender ideology criteria in employee recruitment, vendor selection, marketing, and philanthropic support. Shutterstock forces employees to undergo multiple ideological trainings and uses its reputation, corporate funds, and political influence to support controversial sex and gender ideologies, organizations, and legislation. Shutterstock does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees. However, the company has not publicly terminated business relationships based on views or beliefs. The company has partnered with the "It Gets Better Project" an LGBTQ+ nonprofit organization. Shutterstock supports the Equality Act and its CEO signed the CEOs for Gun Safety. The company opposed various state and local legislation intended to protect parental rights, girls' sports, bathroom facilities, and gendered spaces. Shutterstock co-signed a letter to law firms demanding an improvement in diversity in order to retain business with the company. For these reasons, Shutterstock receives a High Risk rating.

## Corporate Weaponization

**Has denied service to customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries. Medium Risk**

*Shutterstock received a score of 100 on the 2023 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. The company recruits employees based on sexual identity issues. The company discriminates against vendors that do not promote divisive sex and gender policies, indicating it prioritizes sexual issues over merit (1)(2)*

**Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs. High Risk**

*Shutterstock's HRC CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (1)(2). Shutterstock does not publish charitable giving guidelines (3).*

**Employment policies fail to protect against discrimination based on political affiliation/views and/or religion. High Risk**

Shutterstock's HRC 2023 CEI rating indicates the company forces employees to attend multiple, controversial trainings on gender identity, sexual orientation, transgender issues, and divisive racial ideology. The company provides gender transition guidelines for its employees and a specific benefits guide with a comprehensive explanation of transgender services funded by the company (1)(2). Shutterstock does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (3)(4).

## Corporate Governance and Public Policy

### Uses corporate reputation to support ideological causes and/or organizations hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk

Shutterstock's HRC 2023 CEI rating indicates the company agrees to allow a controversial stakeholder group focused on sexual identity issues to dictate marketing or advertising strategy (1)(2). By doing so, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. The company signed an open letter in support of the Equality Act and its CEO is a signatory to CEOs for Gun Safety (3)(45). The company co-signed a letter to law firms demanding an improvement in diversity in order to retain business with the company (6).

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### Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk

Shutterstock's HRC 2023 CEI rating indicates the company covers transgender related costs for its employees and their children, including paid short-term leave, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, chest surgeries, genital surgeries, medical visits and lab monitoring, travel and lodging. Additionally, the company has pledged philanthropic support of at least one organization or event that promotes sex and gender ideology (1)(23).

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### Uses corporate political contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. High Risk

Shutterstock's HRC 2023 CEI rating indicates the company publicly advocated for controversial sex and gender ideology through local, state or federal legislation or initiatives (1)(2). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. Shutterstock does not operate a PAC or report on its lobbying at this time (3)(4).

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