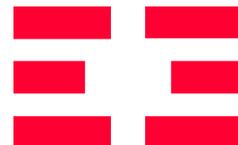




Simon & Schuster

Locations: New York (HQ)
Industries: Media and Entertainment

RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

DESCRIPTION:

Simon & Schuster is High Risk. The company yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. Simon & Schuster embraces corporate initiatives that redirect its central focus from business goals to partisan policies and divisive issues. This approach fails to safeguard free exercise, free speech, and free enterprise.

Corporate Weaponization

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

Despite its statement against book banning and censorship, Simon & Schuster publicly canceled a book deal with U.S. Senator Josh Hawley (R-MO) in January 2021, citing his objection to the 2020 presidential election results (1)(2).

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

Simon & Schuster does not appear to discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or beliefs (1)(2).

Employment policies fail to protect against viewpoint or other discrimination and/or are ideological in nature. Medium Risk

Simon & Schuster does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (1)(2).

Corporate Governance and Public Policy

Uses corporate reputation to support causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk

Simon & Schuster features a Pride collection and a teen LGBT fiction book collection on its website (1)(2). The company publishes Kaleidoscope annually, a children's diversity initiative brochure which propagates books by LGBTQ authors specifically targeting youth (3)(4). The company supports DEI within its business practices, employing a DEI Council. It hosts a video series featuring authors and employees from "underrepresented group" discussing their identity. The company began several diversity initiatives in its

publication including working with publishers to amplify and advocate for diversity (5).

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

Simon & Schuster has not used corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies (1)(2)(3).

Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. Lower Risk

Simon & Schuster does not operate a PAC at this time and its parent company, KKR, has not lobbied for ideological purposes (1)(2)(3).

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