



Zillow

Locations: Washington (HQ)
Industries: Real Estate

RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

DESCRIPTION:

Zillow is High Risk. The company yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. The company implements race and identity-based policies that replace merit, excellence, and integrity with preferential treatment and outcomes. Zillow 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. Medium Risk

Zillow received a score of 80 on the 2023-2024 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). However, Zillow has not publicly canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs (3).

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

Zillow's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (1)(2). Zillow's charitable giving guidelines require that organizations abide by its nondiscrimination policy, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, thereby excluding some religious charities (3).

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

Zillow does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (1). The company has mandatory unconscious bias training for its employees (2).

Corporate Governance and Public Policy

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

High Risk

Zillow's HRC 2023-2024 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. Zillow signed an open letter in support of the Equality Act, a controversial bill (3). The company discloses which listings have LGBT fair housing, although it is illegal to discriminate against potential buyers for their sexual orientation or gender identity (4). Zillow's CEO signed an open letter to the Georgia General Assembly advocating for "more comprehensive" hate crime laws (5). The company opposed various state and local legislation intended to protect parental rights, girls' sports, bathroom facilities, and gendered spaces (6)(7). Zillow opposed legislation in Iowa intended to protect parental rights, girls' sports, bathroom facilities, and gendered spaces (8). The company opposed the Florida Parental Rights in Education Act, which would prohibit teaching gender identity and sexual orientation to kids in K-3rd grade (9). Zillow's Co-Founder & CEO, Rich Barton, denounced various states' legislative efforts to protect election integrity and security (10).

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

High Risk

Zillow provides a benefits package for employees which covers travel/lodging costs for an abortion and transgender medical procedures for covered employees and dependents, including children (1)(2)(3). Zillow's HRC 2023-2024 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 (4)(5). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders.

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

High Risk

Zillow's HRC 2023-2024 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. Zillow donated to the Equality PAC but has not lobbied for ideological purposes (3)(4)(5).

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