

## How Does Money Impact Elections? PART 1

**The Task:** Students will evaluate the impact of money and *Citizens United v. FEC* on elections.

**Standards:** **9.1.2.3.2** – Analyze how tools of civic engagement are used to influence the American political system.

**9.1.4.8.2** – Evaluate the role of interest groups, corporations, think tanks, the media and public opinion on the political process and public policy formation

### **How To:**

1. Watch Hip Hughes video on *Citizens United* and complete the Video Guide.
  - a. Link: <https://youtu.be/kcnkgDHU9I8> or is attached in Google Classroom
2. Write a tweet from the perspective of at least 3 of the following (you can do more):
  - a. An incumbent candidate (someone who is already in office)
  - b. A challenger candidate (someone who is trying to beat the incumbent)
  - c. A wealthy individual
  - d. A not wealthy individual
  - e. A Super PAC
  - f. A corporation
  - g. Someone who researches elections
  - h. Someone from the media
3. You can use the attached template, or you use zeoob.com
4. Tweets should be:
  - a. Persuasive
  - b. Based on facts
  - c. Written professionally
  - d. No more than 140 characters
5. Tweets could include:
  - a. A hashtag
  - b. A reply to someone else's tweet
  - c. A handle (@\_\_\_\_\_ )
  - d. An image

## **Video Guide: “Citizens United Explained” from HipHughes History**

2:20- How did candidates raise campaign funds in the “Olden Times”

3:08- What did the Tillman Act (1907) ban?

3:22- What did the Taft-Hartley Act (1947) ban?

4:10- Why did PACs develop?

4:40- What did the FECA Act (1971) try to do?

5:40- How did PACs try to get around the limits set on them by the FECA Act?

6:35- What did the McCain Feingold Act (or the BCRA) ban?

7:00- What are 527 groups not allowed to do in their issue ads?

9:38- Why did the FEC say that *Citizens United* violated the BCRA by creating this movie?

10:00- Who did the Supreme Court side with in *Citizens United V. FEC*?

10:45- What is the connection made between speech and money in the *Citizens United V. FEC* decision?

10:55- Summarize the liberal stance on money in politics.

11:25- Summarize the conservative stance on money in politics.

12:00- What are SuperPACs not allowed to do?

12:45- Where is the majority of the funding for SuperPACs coming from?

