

# GATES FOUNDATION

## Fair Questions

- Why do they claim to fight climate change, yet profit from **fossil fuels**?
- Why do they profit from **immigrant detention**?
- Why do they profit from **private prisons**?
- Why do they profit from **shipping tar sands oil** to Asian markets via the rail lines it owns (via Berkshire Hathaway stock)?
- Why do they profit from **Palestinian detention facilities**?
- Why do they **support GMOs** when there is no long term data on possible negative health effects?
- Why do they support **industrial agriculture** when the UN claims it is less effective than small-scale, organic farms?
- Why do they push **charter schools**, when the results are often mediocre at best and fraudulent at worst?
- Why do they drive using **test scores to determine teacher salaries**? (even MSFT recently dropped the link between \$ and employee ratings)
- Why do they want to **replace college with online 'worker training'**?
- Why do they believe that the most important dimension of a human being is their **contribution to the economy**? (See the vision statement for their post-secondary education program)
- What is the proper role of **wealth and power** in Philanthropy? Does the Gates Foundation have **too much influence**, and does this **distort research**?
- Is the Gates Foundation only treating the **SYMPTOMS** of our inequitable system, but ignoring the fundamental **CAUSE**? Does the Gates Foundation **benefit from** and **perpetuate injustices** in the system?

<http://CreativityNotControl.wordpress.com>

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# GATES FOUNDATION Fun Facts

- Much of the Gates Foundation funds are in Berkshire Hathaway stock, which owns Burlington Northern Sante Fe (BNSF) and Canadian Railway (CN). BNSF and CN are now **profiting from explosive tar sands oil** trains. This expanded rail capacity will bring tar sands oil to Asian markets, even without Keystone XL.
- Gates Foundation has significant investments in the **GEO Group**, which operates the **immigrant detention facility** in Tacoma.
- Gates Foundation invests in **G4S**, a private security firm that operates **detention camps in Palestine** and has been accused of human rights abuses.
- The United Nations recently reported that small-scale, organic farming is the best way to eradicate hunger, yet the Gates Foundation continues to **support GMOs and agro-business giants** like Monsanto and Cargill.
- They preach nutrition, but invest billions in **McDonald's, Coca-Cola, Pepsi, Burger King, etc.**
- They preach support for the working poor, but invest billions in **Walmart**
- They preach about fighting climate change, but invest billions in fossil fuels like **Exxon Mobile, Arch Coal, Peabody Coal, etc.**
- Gates' **Measures of Effective Teaching (MET)** project **failed** miserably at validating their preconceived belief that teacher effectiveness can be scientifically measured. (This study won the National Education Policy Center's 2013 Bunkum Awards, recognizing lowlights in educational research).
- Gates has been a key driver of **standardized testing**, which is being rejected by parents and teachers nationwide. These standardized tests were originally created by the **Eugenics movement** in attempt to prove the 'genetic superiority' of whites and to apply **assembly line models** to classroom.
- Gates admitted their **Small Schools Initiative produced "disappointing" results** AFTER districts spent millions redesigning buildings based on Gates direction (eg, Cleveland HS).
- Gates brags about the quality of his own relevant and relationship-based education at Lakeside, yet pushes **Common Core** and treats schools as **education factories to produce more workers.**
- The Gates Foundation post-secondary program was **severely criticized** by the Chronicle of Higher Education for being "designed for maximum measurability, delivered increasingly through technology, and...narrowly focused on equipping students for **short-term employability.**"

Sources:

<http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2013/12/gates-foundations-24-most-egregious-investments>

<http://www.schargel.com/2009/01/27/bill-gates-admits-that-small-schools-are-not-the-answer/>

<http://nepc.colorado.edu/thinktank/review-MET-final-2013>

<http://chronicle.com/article/The-Gates-Effect/140323/>

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