

What's wrong with this picture?

- The President authorizes the National Security Agency to spy on United States citizens and intercept their private communications without obtaining a warrant.
- The Vice-President holds closed back-room meetings with energy companies in order to construct a national energy policy that is friendly to polluters and tax-evaders, and offers no resources for alternative energy sources.
- The United States Congress (both Republican and Democrat) voluntarily gives up its right to authorize war, and then passes every budget request for continued action without scrutiny, even when shown that most of the money isn't going to the troops that need it, but instead is being lost to corruption of the (no-bid !) contractors chosen to do reconstruction.
- The U.S. Administration authorizes human torture and detainment without due process, outsources these activities to foreign countries without human rights laws, and then lies to the American public about its involvement.
- The United States Congress passes legislation (the "Patriot Act") which curtails personal freedoms and privacy expectations, to the extent that innocent students are subject to wiretaps, warrantless search and seizure of their computers and personal communications, and tracking of their internet usage and library records.
- Top-ranking officials of both Democratic and Republican parties are caught in a lobbying scandal taking bribes from private and corporate interests in return for passing legislation friendly to these interests. Meanwhile, it turns out that the ethics board that is supposed to investigate and prevent such misdeeds had been *mutually disbanded by these main parties years ago*, in a voluntary "truce" on ethics investigations!
- The top telecommunications and energy firms (Enron, Worldcom, Halliburton, etc.), whose officers are long-standing friends of the current administration, and who have spent millions influencing legislation on both sides of the aisle, are caught in price-fixing, false value reporting, energy supply manipulation, and obstruction of justice schemes, ultimately causing thousands of their employees to lose their life savings. Meanwhile, the top mutual fund firms are caught in accounting scandals and false evaluation schemes as well. Congress' answer? Appoint officers from these very companies to serve on industry "oversight" boards!
- Despite repeated warnings by engineers and public policy officials, thousands of poor and minority people are left homeless and without basic assistance during and after the Katrina hurricane disaster, due to government neglect and unpreparedness, even while upper-class citizens in the same area have their communications, transportation, and reconstruction needs met right away.
- The United States Congress passes bipartisan telecommunications legislation designed to give away even more of the public airwaves to private media conglomerates, and ensure these near-monopolies even less competition by forbidding low-power community radio and TV stations.
- The United States Congress passes bipartisan bankruptcy legislation at the behest of credit card and banking companies, in order to make it more difficult for American citizens to work their way out of debt, and yet does nothing to limit the huge interest rates charged by these corporations!

Just who are these people working for? Certainly not the American public !

It's time to join a political party which :

- **Works for true democracy and the common citizen,**
- **Subscribes to a written, formal code of ethical standards and democratic ideals, and**
- **Takes no corporate contributions of any kind.**

It's time to vote GREEN – Join the Green Party !