



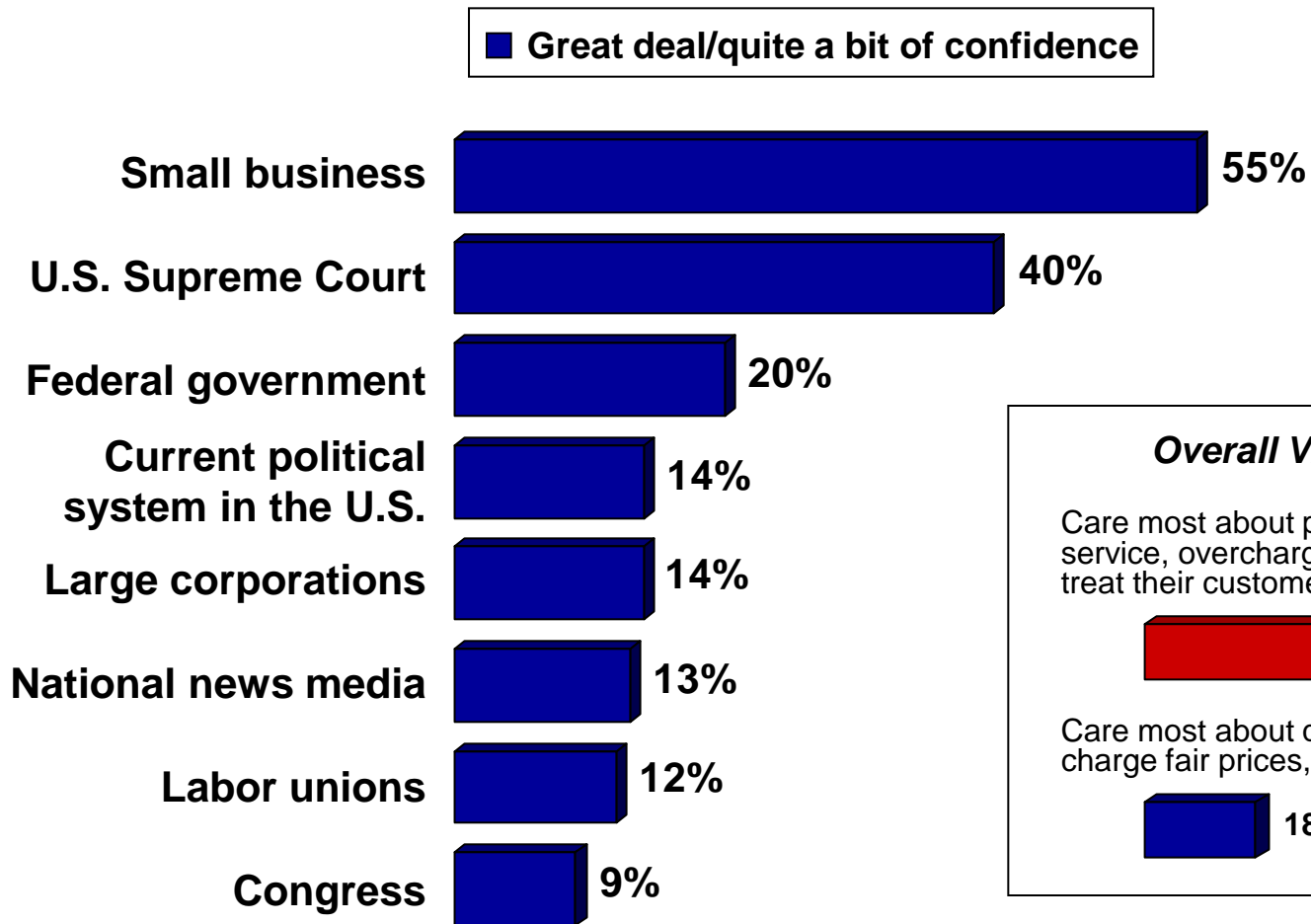
Free Speech For People Nationwide Voter Survey

Key findings from online survey among 500 voters nationwide
Conducted December 27, 2010 to January 3, 2011
for

FREE SPEECH
FOR PEOPLE
● **ORG**

The public lacks confidence in many institutions, and in the political system.

How much confidence do you have in each of these institutions?



Overall View of Corporations

Care most about profits, cut corners on service, overcharge on prices, and do not treat their customers well



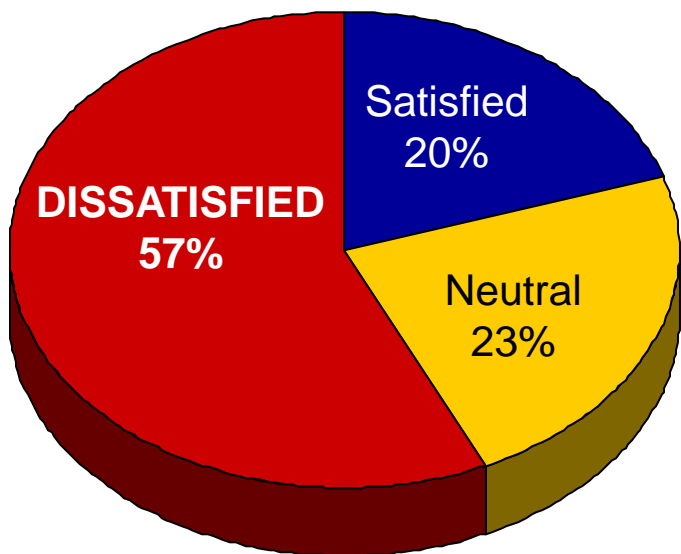
Care most about quality of service, charge fair prices, treat customers well



Many are dissatisfied with the nation's political system.

- Voters are especially dissatisfied with the ability of special interests and corporations to influence elections, as well as with political advertising and the amount of money spent on campaigns.

Overall Satisfaction w/Current Political System in U.S.



■ Very dissatisfied* with this aspect of current political system in U.S.

Special interests' impact on election outcomes



Amount of money spent on campaigns



Political campaign advertising



Corporations' impact on election outcomes



News media's coverage of campaign issues



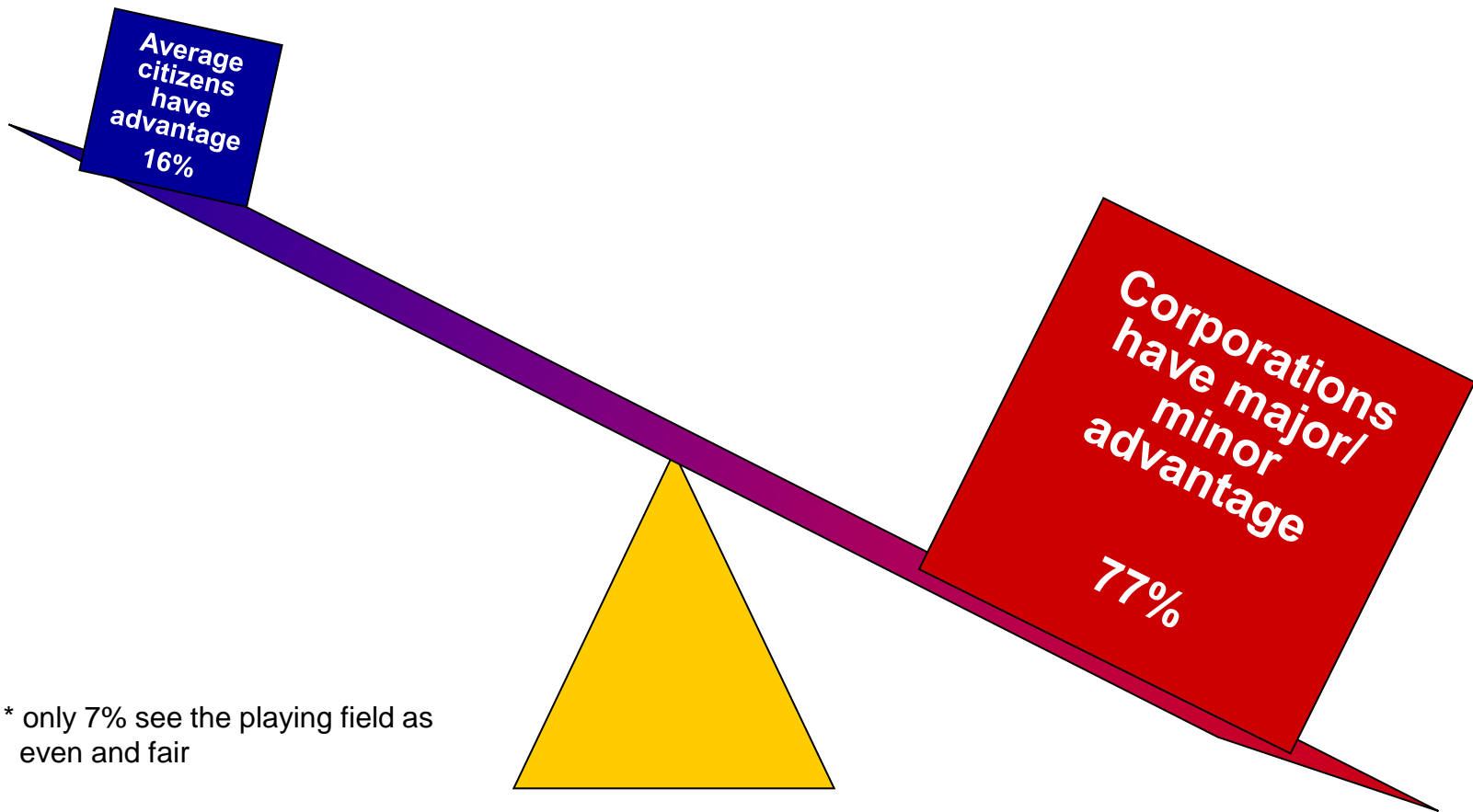
Average voters' impact on election outcomes



*0-2 ratings on zero-to-ten scale, 10 = totally satisfied

Voters believe the current system is out of balance.

How even or fair is the playing field between average citizens and corporations in our current political system?

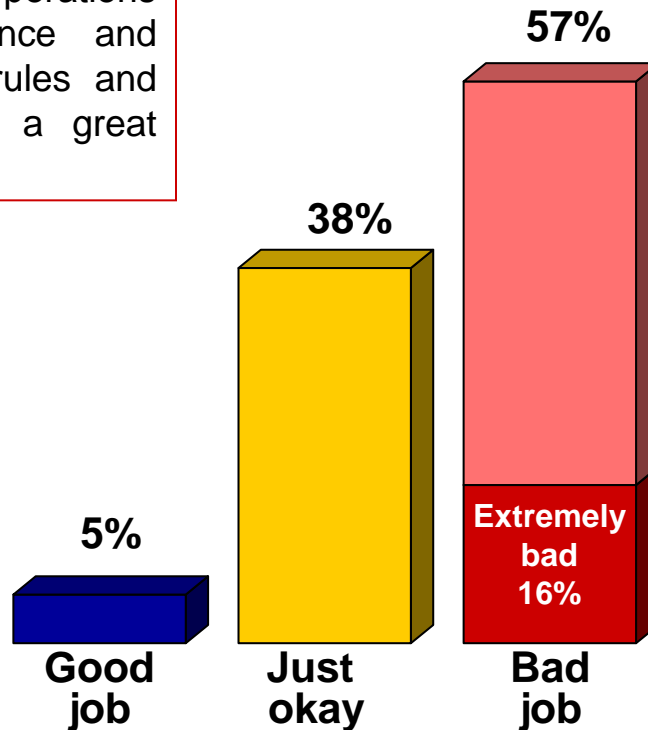


* only 7% see the playing field as even and fair

The public is also unhappy with corporations' influence on legislation, regulations, and enforcement.

How well do current rules and regulations control large corporations' influence on legislation and enforcement?

61% of voters say that "corporations having too much influence and control over government rules and regulations" worries them a great deal or quite a bit.

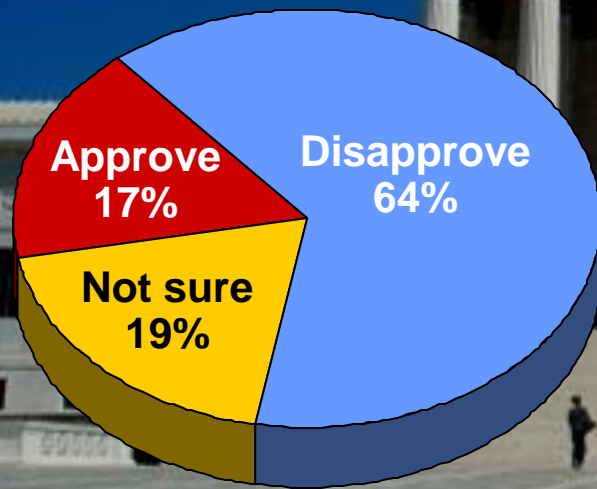


Perceptions of Citizens United decision

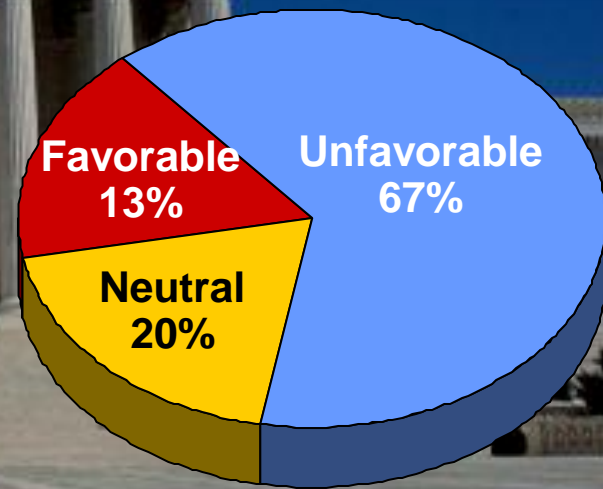
- ◆ Just 22% of voters have heard about the Citizens United decision.

Support for Supreme Court Citizens United Decision

Voters Aware of Decision



Voters NOT Aware of Decision
(after read brief description)



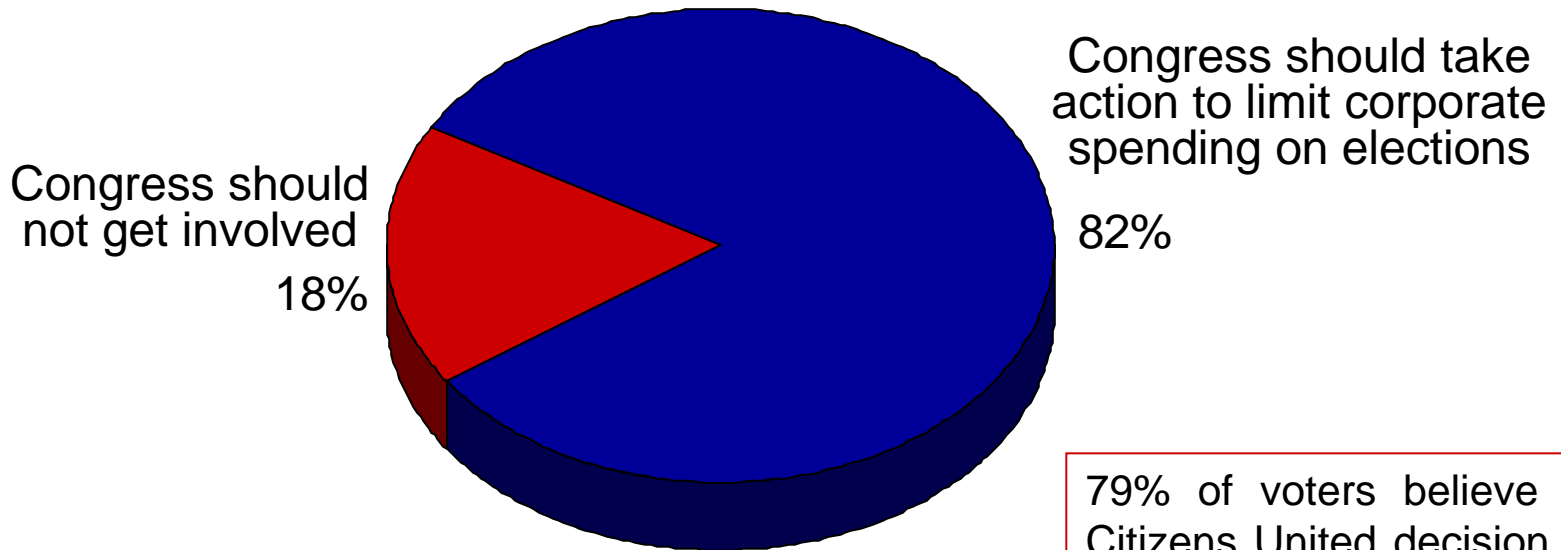
Voters expect the Citizens United decision will have wide-ranging negative impacts.

% saying each definitely/probably will be the case as result of Citizens United decision

- 89%** Corporations will be in a position to influence votes for specific pieces of legislation through their spending either in support of or opposition to an incumbent member of Congress
- 87%** Campaigns will become more expensive
- 85%** It will allow corporations to buy elections
- 82%** Corporations' spending will overwhelm the voice and input that average citizens have in the nation's electoral process
- 81%** Corporations will be able to threaten members of Congress who do not support their interests by running a campaign against them using corporate funds
- 80%** Foreign corporations will be able to use their funds to improve their position in the marketplace
- 79%** Corporations will have an unfair advantage with decreased government regulation and oversight
- 78%** It will allow corporate power to undermine our democracy and self-government of the people
- 74%** It will take decisions about who wins and loses elections out of the hands of voters and put them into the hands of corporations

Voters want Congress to limit what corporations can spend.

Do you think Congress should take action to limit the amount corporations can spend on elections?

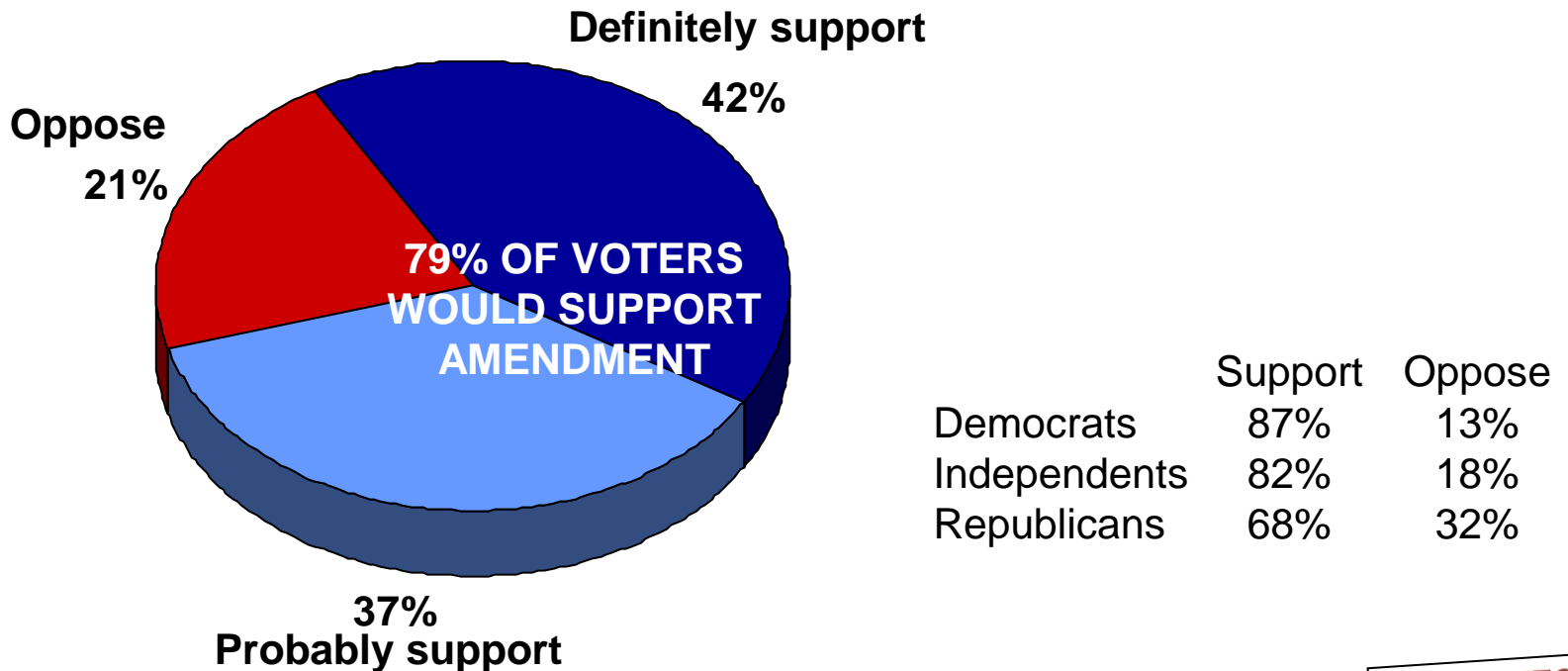


79% of voters believe the Citizens United decision will be extremely (38%) or quite (41%) significant.

Support is widespread for a Constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United and state that corporations do not have the same rights as people.

Restoring Congressional authority to limit the amount corporations can spend on elections might require a Constitutional amendment because the Supreme Court's decision in the Citizens United case said corporations have the same rights as individuals under the Constitution.

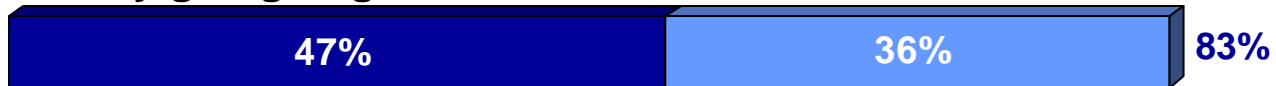
Would you support a Constitutional amendment that would overturn the Citizens United decision and make clear that corporations do not have the same rights as people?



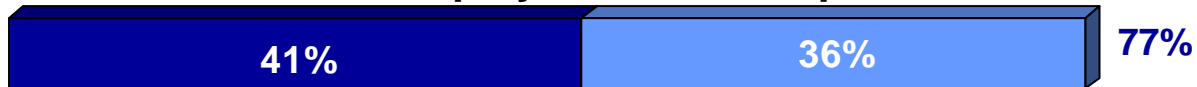
The strongest argument for an amendment is increase in corporate campaign spending.

■ Very convincing argument (8-10*) ■ Fairly convincing (5-7*)

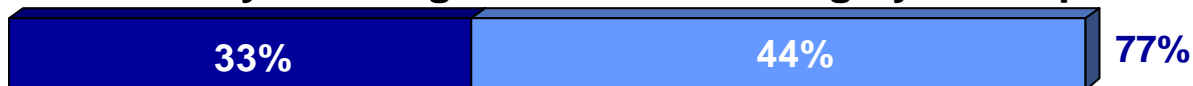
Since the Supreme Court ruling, spending by corporations is up 33%, and now is over \$4 billion. It is only going to get more one sided from here.



This decision allows corporations to spend unlimited amounts to support or oppose candidates for public office, and no one beyond the CEO has to approve that spending--not stockholders or employees of the corporations.



Just as the poll tax . . . was overturned, there are times when it is necessary to pass an amendment on an issue the Supreme Court has ruled constitutional. This is the only and best way to change this current ruling by the Supreme Court.



This ruling says corporations have the same free speech rights as individuals . . . amendment is needed to stop corporations from claiming free speech rights in order to try to overturn laws and regulations that they oppose.



* ratings on zero-to-ten scale, 10 = very convincing