



OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

FAQ ABOUT ATTACKS FROM ANTI-UNION ORGANIZATIONS

Our members and our Union are under a well-funded attack from far-right Dark Money conspirators whose stated goal is to destroy us. Please be sure to use these Frequently Asked Questions to talk to your fellow members about who these people are, what they want, and who is paying them to do it.

Who is contacting me?

They identify themselves as the Freedom Foundation, the Buckeye Institute, or Opt Out Today. Whatever they call themselves, they are out-of-state organizations, paid for by Dark Money funders like Betsy DeVos, who brought us ECOT and the First Energy Bailout. Their message is the same — “Drop your Union membership.”

How do they know how to contact me?

They are data-mining your life, your professional and personal information, to try to convince you that your best interest is the same as theirs. IT IS NOT.

Why are they contacting me?

In the wake of recent Supreme Court Decisions, paid for by the same Dark Money, they're trying to destroy all educator unions, and any say that you have over your career or the learning conditions of your students.

Why are they contacting me now?

In the most despicable way, they're attempting to prey on all of our uncertainty during this pandemic. Their hope is that you'll listen to their message as you're stressing about returning to work at this time.

How can I stop them from contacting me?

1. If they're calling or texting you, block their numbers in your smartphone.
2. If they're sending you emails to your personal address, add them to your spam folder and contact your email provider to report it as spam. The more people that actually report these contacts as spam, as opposed to just moving them to your spam folder, the closer we'll get to minimizing their reach.
3. If they're sending you emails to your work address, ask your Union leadership to talk to management about blocking them.
4. If they're sending you traditional mail you can write “Return to Sender” on it and put it back in the mailbox, or toss it in the trash where it belongs.

What else can I do to fight these Dark Money groups?

Commit yourself to initiating conversations with your fellow members about who these people are, who is paying them, and what their ultimate goal is. BE SURE to stress that if people drop membership the union can't sustain itself. Without the members there is no Union, and without a Union there is no contract. Don't let Dark Money pull Ohio's educators down.