

# IMPACT CAPITAL STRATEGIES

Check out our website [www.ImpactCapitalStrategies.net](http://www.ImpactCapitalStrategies.net)

## Leveraging the Power of Our Money

Throughout this quarter, many of our clients gave their proxy to activist organizations, including the Sierra Club, Amazon Watch and Rainforest Action Network, to amplify their voices at the shareholder meetings of large financial institutions. At these shareholder meetings, our proxies (the people representing our clients' shares) argued in front of company shareholders, directors and executives against funding oil & gas exploration, drilling, and pipeline development. Impact Capital Strategies has built a network of activists that are seeking to attend shareholder meetings to encourage responsible corporate behavior. We connect our clients who own shares in these companies with activists in order to influence corporate practices.

### March for Our Lives in Boston Common



Lori's daughters

Our clients' message to large financial institutions is that they should stop financing oil company operations in indigenous territories in the Amazon. We are also asking these institutions to stop their funding of hazardous, pollution-generating projects - in particular the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and Mountain Valley Pipeline.

## On the Horizon

We are proud of our clients who use the power of their investments to fight for more ethical corporate behavior. Impact Capital Strategies will continue to support our clients' efforts to bring about positive social change.

We have been responding to our clients' concerns and have been working hard to empower them through shareholder activism. On the horizon, we will seek to join the fight against assault rifles, reforming under-performing private prison companies, and fighting against unethical behavior from large financial institutions that are harming our society. We will use our voice as shareholders by using the power of being a stock owner.

Just as a democracy relies upon citizens to use their voices to vote, shareholders need to use their voices to encourage sound corporate practices.

## NONPROFIT SPOTLIGHT

We recognize the great work of these two nonprofit organizations working effectively to combat environmental injustice and promote human rights on the international stage:

- **Earth Rights International:** EarthRights International (ERI) is a nongovernmental, nonprofit organization that combines the power of law and the power of people in defense of human rights and the environment, defined as "earth rights." [www.earthrights.org](http://www.earthrights.org)
- **Amazon Watch:** Since 1996, Amazon Watch has protected the rainforest and advanced the rights of indigenous peoples in the Amazon Basin. Amazon Watch partners with indigenous and environmental organizations in campaigns for human rights, corporate accountability, and the preservation of the Amazon's ecological systems. [www.amazonwatch.org](http://www.amazonwatch.org)

## Save the Date!

Please join us on Thursday, November 15th to learn about recent campaigns and important victories our clients have had using shareholder activism, and learn about exciting new counter-efforts to fight corporate SLAPP<sup>1</sup> suits. We are excited to have Katie Redford, Co-founder and Director from Earth Rights International and Andrew Miller, Advocacy Director at Amazon Watch, speaking.

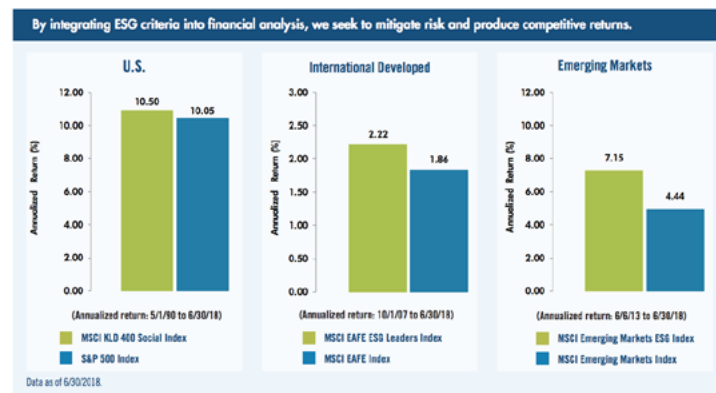
**To RSVP, Please contact Steve Badt:** [Steve@ImpactCapitalStrategies.net](mailto:Steve@ImpactCapitalStrategies.net) • 202-844-3552

<sup>1</sup> A Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP) is a lawsuit that is intended to censor, intimidate, and silence critics by burdening them with the cost of a legal defense until they abandon their criticism or opposition.[1] Such lawsuits have been made illegal in many jurisdictions on the grounds that they impede freedom of speech. (Wikipedia)

## ESG: Impact and Performance

Twenty years ago, Jon and Lori began working with clients to build fossil fuel-free investment portfolios, seeking companies that had strong environmental, social and governance practices – long before the newly popular term “Environmental, Social and Governance” (ESG) was created.

In the investing world, ESG refers to investing in companies that have strong Environmental, Social and Governance records. As time has shown, these types of companies have less financial risk and have proven to be innovative leaders with returns beating the overall market benchmarks.



[www.disciplinedequities.com](http://www.disciplinedequities.com)

Periodically, our clients would find “Socially Irresponsible Investments” in their portfolios from inheritances, rollovers or from advisors that did not use ESG screens. For some clients, it was tax-prohibitive to sell these investments. In these cases, rather than posting a silent protest by selling these positions, we worked with clients to leverage the power of their money using their voice as owners of these companies to make a positive difference.

Shareholders are ultimately responsible for the actions of the companies they own. At Impact Capital Strategies, we help our clients use the power of their investments to seek positive change. We have had many successes in trying to improve corporate behavior, and trying to bring about positive social change is a core value of our firm.

This effort is especially important right now. As the federal government is weakening regulations, much of the burden of getting corporations to act ethically has shifted even more to the shareholder. As a result, Impact Capital Strategies is committed to increasing our efforts on behalf of our clients, to use their voice to bring about positive social change.



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Jon, Lori and Steve along with industry leader Anne Greenwood from Pax Ellevest Management at our Spring 2018 office event discussing gender-lens investing.

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**[www.ImpactCapitalStrategies.net](http://www.ImpactCapitalStrategies.net)** for complete bios and information about our firm

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## IMPACT BOOK OF THE MOMENT



*Fear: Trump in the White House*

by Bob Woodward

We will make every effort to recycle and use recycled products. We will use local products and support local vendors and artists.

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