

The Problem with Immunity

Cost Shift from Wrongdoers to Taxpayers: Immunization laws fully excuse a negligent party causing injury from responsibility. These laws force families injured by the wrongdoer to deal with the financial burdens of their injuries. The cost of dangerous products – emergency care, long-term health care, lost productivity, lost wages, and the devastation of American families – will not be limited by corporate immunities. If they cannot afford it, the taxpayers must make up the difference, often using welfare-medical assistance; doesn't it make more sense to hold the wrongdoer accountable for his reckless actions?

Undermines Accountability: Immunity permits careless businesses to evade accountability for their negligent acts. Everyone in society should be held accountable when they act unreasonably – this is precisely why we have a tort system protected by the 7th amendment.

Immunity means entities are free to act unreasonably: A company is “negligent” when it fails to use reasonable care, resulting in damage or injury to another. When you immunize a company, they are free to act *unreasonably* with impunity.

Picking winners and losers: Immunity is the government picking winners and losers – democracy is letting a jury decide. The tort system is the rational, free market way of ensuring everyone acts reasonably when interacting with strangers in society.

Immunity laws are unjust and protect corporations instead of families: Negligence causes terrible damage every day in this country and its victims require the opportunity to hold accountable those responsible for their injuries. Immunity laws leave citizens with virtually no protection for injuries caused by the carelessness of any person associated with a business and may even encourage workers and manufacturers to be less responsible. Protecting America's families should be the first priority.

