



# DIVEST FROM THE WAR MACHINE

[WWW.CODEPINK.ORG/DIVEST](http://WWW.CODEPINK.ORG/DIVEST)

12400

**Transparency is a win!**



**Screening Investments: Weapons Free Fund**

# DIVESTMENT CAMPAIGNS CAN...

- Spark a vital public debate questioning the role of weapons manufacturers and military contractors in perpetuating conflict around the globe
- Expose how our financial and educational institutions are supporting those companies
- Inspire the public and investors to pressure these institutions to divest
- Hold the arms industry accountable in political and financial spheres for its culpability in the death and displacement of millions of innocent people

Underlying this entire dynamic is the fact that **large financial institutions like banks and asset managers** invest heavily in these weapons manufacturers



**Weapons manufacturers** produce the arms and technology that make wars possible, making a large profit



Politicians vote to extend existing wars, engage in new conflicts, and steadily increase the **Pentagon budget**

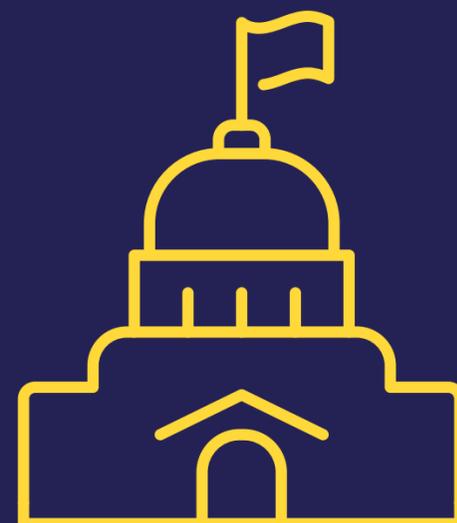


Weapons Manufacturers use their large profits to fund the campaigns of **politicians** programs at **educational institutions**, and much more

**DIVEST YOUR CITY**



**DIVEST STATE**



**DIVEST YOUR SCHOOL**



# RESEARCH



# Gathering Investment Information





SEARCH



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**Freedom Of Information Act**

[foia](#)

# Call Barrage to Investment Officer Steve Yoon



- **Engaged** more people in the campaign
- **Trained** activists how to create a call script and call barrage calendar
- **Demonstrated** the extent to which institutions can use their power to deny access to information

# File a Freedom of Information Act Request

**TELL THE  
CHICAGO  
CITY COUNCIL  
TO DIVEST  
FROM WAR!**



CODEPINK.ORG

- **With the help of MuckRock, activists filed a FOIA request**
- **After receiving the FOIA request, learned that the Municipal Employee's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago *is* invested in weapons companies**
- **The campaign is now gathering individual, organizational, and political support to divest from war**

**Transparency is a win!**



# DIGGING INTO INVESTMENTS

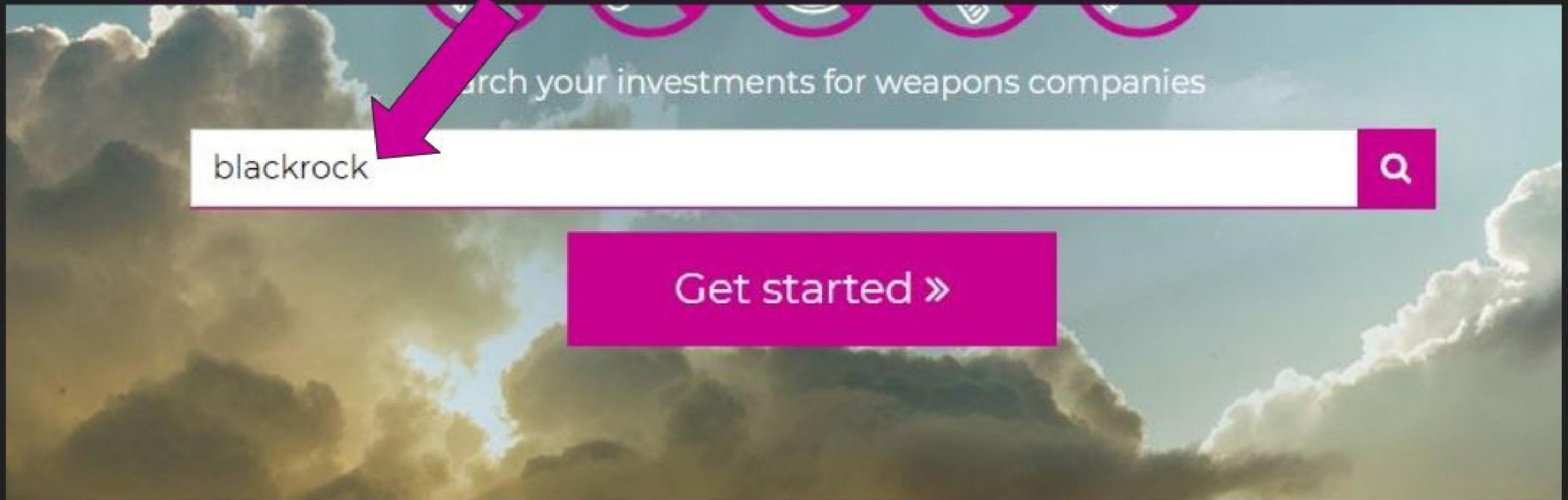


**CODEPINK** has joined with **As You Sow** to develop a searchable database of commonly held mutual funds and ETFs to determine if your investments are tied to weapons of war. You can find that tool at [www.weaponfreefunds.org](http://www.weaponfreefunds.org) or at [www.codepink.org/divest](http://www.codepink.org/divest).



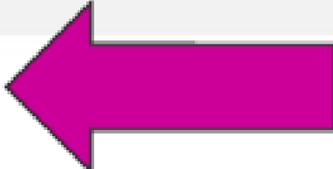
To track major military contractors, we use the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) Arms Industry Database.

Let's do an example search together using investment manager BlackRock, which CODEPINK has been targeting because of its many billions invested in war and violence.



Ticker	Fund name	Weapon exposure	Weapon risk	^ Socially responsible	Net assets	Category
BIRIX	BlackRock Impact US Equity Institutional	4.02%	High	✓	\$53.12M	Large Blend
BIRAX	BlackRock Impact US Equity Investor A	4.02%	High	✓	\$53.12M	Large Blend
BIRCX	BlackRock Impact US Equity Investor C	4.02%	High	✓	\$53.12M	Large Blend
BIRKX	BlackRock Impact US Equity K	4.02%	High	✓	\$53.12M	Large Blend
MALOX	BlackRock Global Allocation Instl	1.41%	High			
MDLOX	BlackRock Global Allocation Inv A	1.41%	High	✗		
MADVX	BlackRock Equity Dividend Instl	3.63%	High	✗	\$20.83B	Large Value
BTMKX	iShares MSCI EAFE Intl Idx K	1.69%	High	✗	\$11.56B	Foreign Large Blend
WFSPX	iShares S&P 500 Index K	4.37%	High	✗	\$15.09B	Large Blend
MCLOX	BlackRock Global Allocation Inv C	1.41%	High	✗	\$39.47B	World Allocation

Every single one of these funds is invested in weapons. Let's click on the first fund listed, BlackRock Impact US Equity Institutional, to see details.



BlackRock Impact U.S. Equity Fund \$BIRIX is 4.02% invested in weapon stocks, with \$2.13 MILLION invested across 11 equity holdings

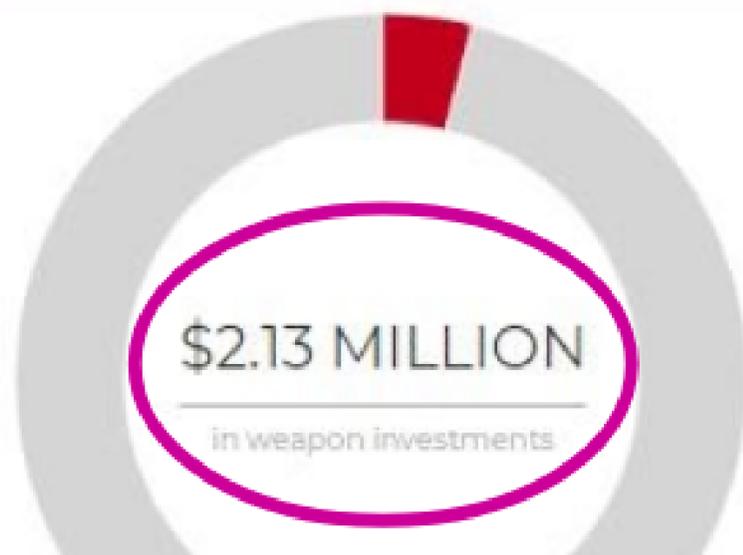
Weapon risk

High

A fund earns a risk score - low, medium, or high - based on its stock investments in different weapon sectors.

[See how we track weapon investments >](#)

socially responsible 



Screening for: All weapons ▶

For each weapons category, we show the fund's exposure. Click a category to see the breakdown of companies in the pie chart and list below.

### Military weapons

	Major military contractors Top 100 military contractors	3.17% of assets	10 holdings	\$1.68M invested
	Cluster munitions and landmines Manufacturers of weapons banned in 100+ countries		0 direct stock holdings	
	Nuclear weapons Manufacturers/servicers of nuclear armaments	1.92% of assets	5 holdings	\$1.01M invested

### Civilian firearms

	Gun manufacturers Manufacturers of civilian firearms		0 direct stock holdings	
	Gun retailers Largest public retailers of civilian firearms	0.86% of assets	1 holdings	\$452,738 invested

Each fund page looks like this, with a full breakdown of investments based on your screening choices.

# RESOURCES & CONTACT:



- 1. WEAPONS FREE FUND**
- 2. LIST OF COMPANIES TO DIVEST FROM**
- 3. SAMPLE CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION**
- 4. STUDENT ACTIVIST GUIDE TO DIVESTMENT**

**CARLEY@CODEPINK.ORG**