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ESG describes areas that characterize a sustainable, responsible or ethical investment.

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**The Financial Times Lexicon defines ESG as** “a generic term used in capital markets and used by investors to evaluate corporate behavior and to determine the future financial performance of companies. ESG is a subset of non-financial performance indicators which include sustainable, ethical and corporate governance issues such as managing a company’s carbon footprint and ensuring there are systems in place to ensure accountability. They are factors in investment considerations, used in risk assessment strategies incorporated into both investment decisions and risk management processes.”

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“Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) metrics are a kind of social credit system designed to coerce businesses—and, by extension, individuals and all of society—to transform their practices.

Through a carrot-and-stick approach, investors and banks (and soon governments) use ESG to push businesses to change how they function, regardless of what the employees and customers of those businesses want. In many cases, however, corporate executives are all too willing to go along, because they want access to the cheap capital offered by investors and financial institutions.



**Justin Haskins**

Dir. of the Socialism Research Ctr,  
Editorial director at The Heartland Institute

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The widespread adoption of ESG metrics, which is also commonly called ‘stakeholder capitalism’—is meant to *radically alter* how businesses are evaluated, expanding considerations beyond traditional economic metrics like profit, revenue, debt, customer satisfaction, and product development.

Instead of looking at economic and financial considerations, ESG social credit metrics measure things like, ‘Percentage of active workforce covered under collective bargaining agreements’ (union labor), and ‘Percentage of employees per employee category, by age group, gender and other indicators of diversity (e.g. ethnicity).”



Justin Haskins

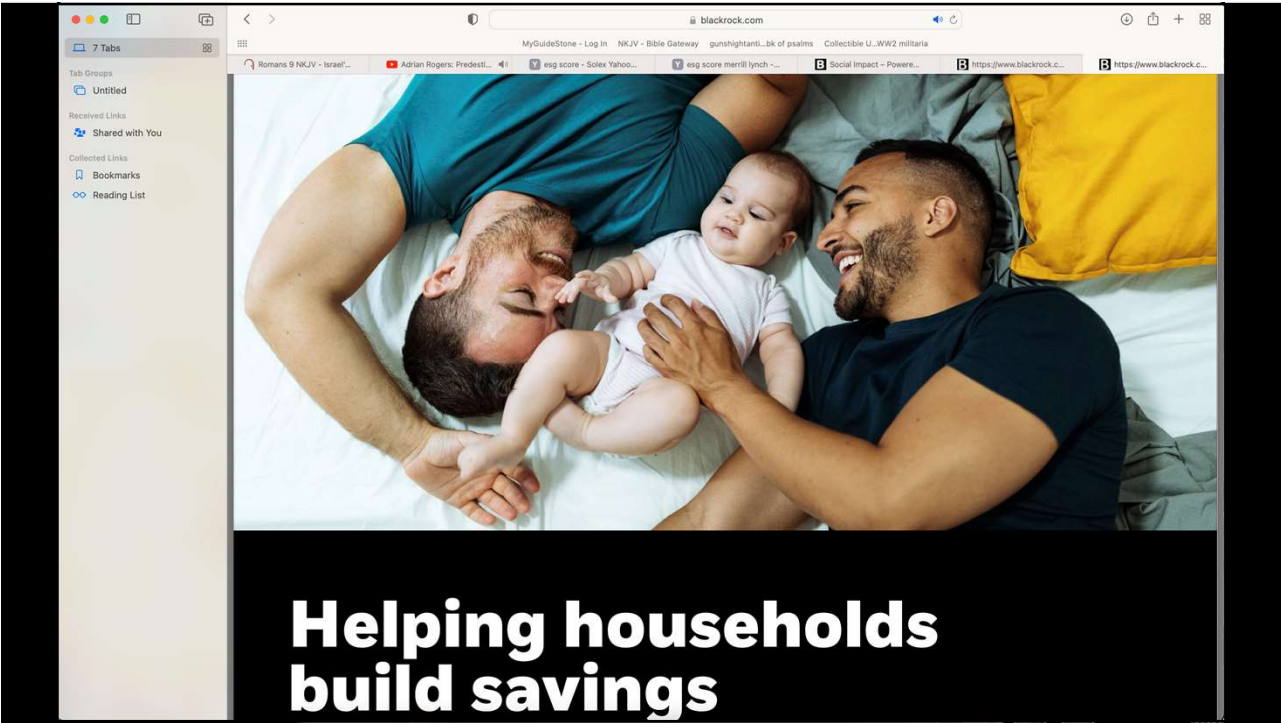
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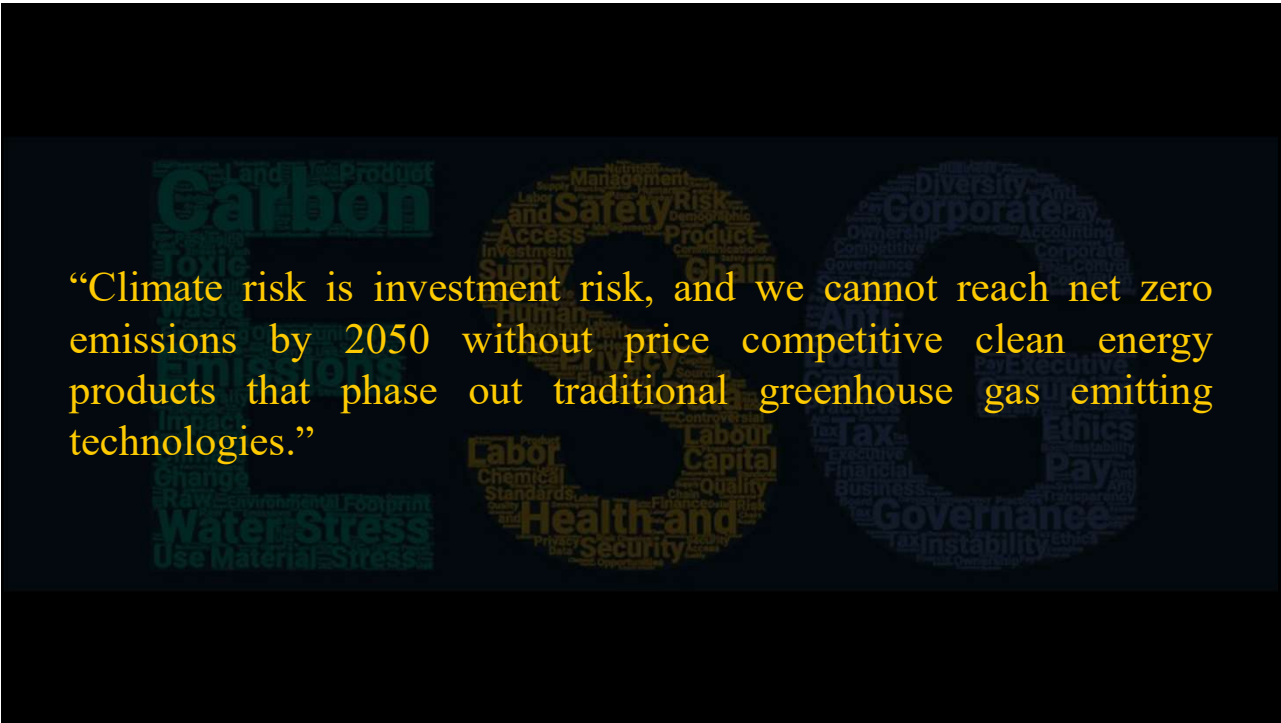
BlackRock – largest asset management firm in the world

“Social Impact at BlackRock consists of two distinct pillars: The BlackRock Foundation which focuses on helping people build financial security and participate in an inclusive transition to a low-carbon future, and our employee engagement programs which equip employees to be agents of social change in their communities.”

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CAPITAL GROUP

We believe ESG is integral to successful investing. We are systematically incorporating environmental, social and governance issues into our investment process.

We believe integrating ESG into our investment process can generate better long-term outcomes for our clients.

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5 Tabs

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Why the "S" in ESG Is Getting Attention

Heightened awareness of social injustice and a new administration focused on social equality could help to drive wider acceptance of sustainable and impact investing

March 19, 2021

"ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) issues have historically formed a solid framework for those interested in sustainable and impact investing," says Sarah Norman, Director and Senior Investment Strategist, Sustainable & Impact Investment Strategy, in the Chief Investment Office (CIO) for Merrill and Bank of America Private Bank. But lately the "S" in ESG—social impact—has gotten special attention.

Amid a global pandemic and stark reminders of racial inequality, increasingly

Why the "S" in ESG Investing Is Getting...

Explore your goals

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## Who are the ESG Rating Agencies?

- **Bloomberg ESG Data Service:** offers ESG data for more than 11,700 companies in 102 countries
- **Corporate Knights Global 100:** an annual global ranking of corporate sustainability performance by Toronto-based magazine Corporate Knights
- **Sustainalytics ESG Risk Ratings:** designed to help investors identify financially material ESG risks for more than 12,000 companies
- **Dow Jones Sustainability Index Family:** headlined by DJSI World, which represents the top 10% most sustainable companies among the largest 2,500 in the S&P Global BMI
- **Thomson Reuters ESG Scores:** measures ESG performance across 10 themes for more than 6,000 companies globally
- **RepRisk:** uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to compile coverage of ESG risk assessment for more than 160,000 public and private companies

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## 1. Where we must stand on **Environmental Issues.**

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- Understand that creation is His – not ours

**Ps 24:1-2** The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein. <sup>2</sup>For He has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the waters.

**Ps 50:10-11** For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. <sup>11</sup> I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are Mine.

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**Col 1:16-18** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. <sup>18</sup> And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

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- We must steward the earth – not serve it

**Gen 2:15** Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

**1 Cor 4:2** Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

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- The earth will last until God is finished with it

**Gen 8:22** “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.”

**Rom 8:19-21** For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; <sup>21</sup> because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

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2 Pet 3:5-7,10-11 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, <sup>6</sup>by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. <sup>7</sup> But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. ... <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved,

Rev 21:1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

2. Where we must stand on Social Issues



- Embrace the plenary inspiration and total sufficiency of Scripture

**2 Tim 3:16-17** All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

23

- Fight abortion as murder

**Ex 20:13** You shall not murder.

**Ps 106:36-39** They served their idols, which became a snare to them. <sup>37</sup> They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons, <sup>38</sup> And shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and the land was polluted with blood. <sup>39</sup> Thus they were defiled by their own works, and played the harlot by their own deeds.

**Jer 19:4** “Because they have forsaken Me and made this an alien place, because they have burned incense in it to other gods whom neither they, their fathers, nor the kings of Judah have known, and have filled this place with the blood of the innocents

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- **Defend the sanctity of marriage**

**Heb 13:4** Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

**Ex 20:14** You shall not commit adultery

**Mt 19:4-6** And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ <sup>5</sup> and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? <sup>6</sup> So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

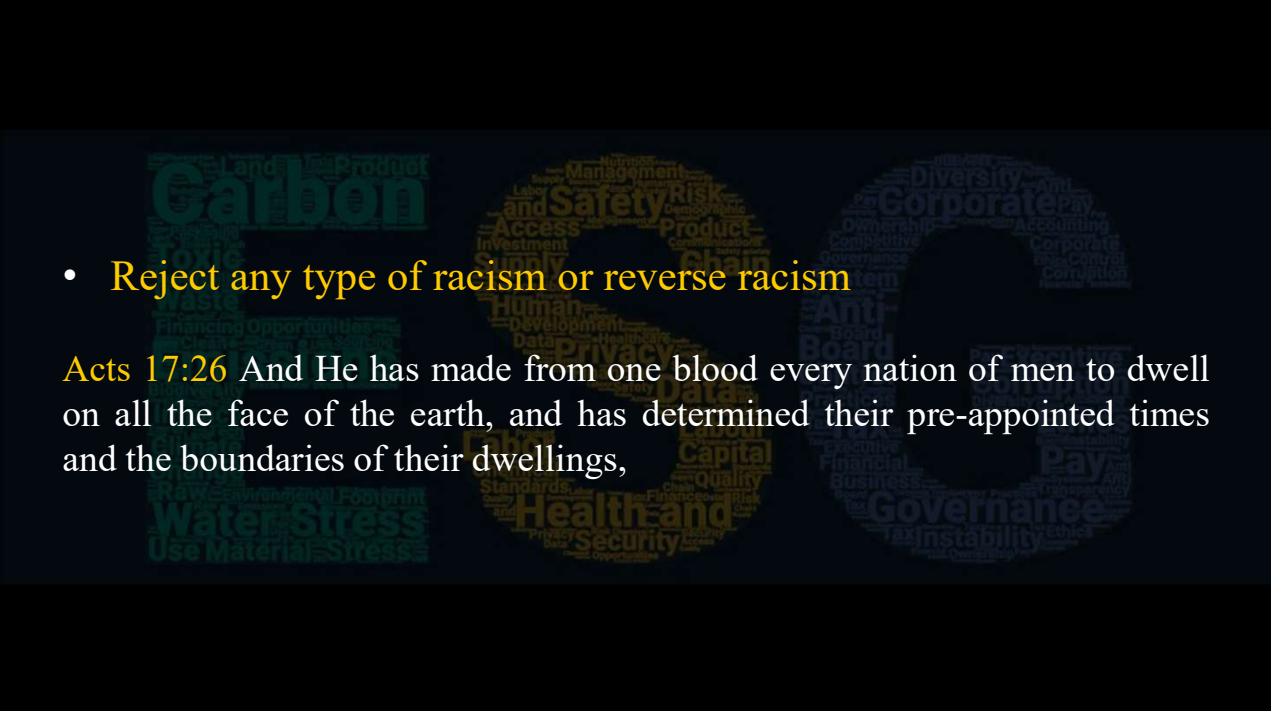
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- **Uphold biblical sexuality**

**Rom 1:26-27** For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. <sup>27</sup> Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

**1 Cor 6:9-11** Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

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A background graphic featuring three large, stylized letters 'E', 'S', and 'G' in a dark blue color. Each letter is filled with a word cloud of various ESG-related terms. The 'E' includes words like Carbon, Water, Stress, and Emissions. The 'S' includes Safety, Health, and Security. The 'G' includes Governance, Diversity, and Corporate. The words are in various sizes and shades of blue and green.

- Reject any type of racism or reverse racism

**Acts 17:26** And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

27

A background graphic featuring three large, stylized letters 'E', 'S', and 'G' in a dark blue color. Each letter is filled with a word cloud of various ESG-related terms. The 'E' includes words like Carbon, Water, Stress, and Emissions. The 'S' includes Safety, Health, and Security. The 'G' includes Governance, Diversity, and Corporate. The words are in various sizes and shades of blue and green.

### 3. Where we must stand on Governance Issues

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**Rom 13:1-5** Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. <sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. <sup>4</sup> For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. <sup>5</sup> Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake.

**Rom 12:18** If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

**Acts 5:29** But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: “We ought to obey God rather than men.

Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, <sup>12</sup> looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? <sup>13</sup> Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; <sup>15</sup> and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation ... <sup>17</sup> You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; <sup>18</sup> but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Pet 3:11-15,17-18