Movement Against Electoral Corruption

MEET THE SOCIAL MOVEMENT THAT FIGHTS CORRUPTION IN BRAZIL

mcce.org.br
THE MCCE

The Movement Against Electoral Corruption (MCCE), a non-governmental organization, is comprised of 51 national organizations from various segments, forming a network of social movements, religious and civil society organizations.

MCCE was responsible for the mobilization of the Brazilian society through the collection of almost 3 million signatures in the country favoring the approval of the only two popular initiative anti-corruption laws. Law No. 9840 of 1999, popularly known as the "Law against vote buying", allows the forfeiture of electoral registries and diplomas acquired by the practice of buying votes or the electoral use of the public administration machinery.

It was also responsible for the campaign which enabled the approval of Complementary Law No. 135 of 2010, known as the "Clean Slate Law".

MCCE also coordinated the campaign "Electoral Corruption and Health - Voting is priceless. Health is your right".

Currently, MCCE works with the Movement to the Reform of Political System in Brazil on another popular initiative law project.

ORGANIZATION

MCCE’s National Committee Executive Secretariat operates from Brasilia, integrating the 51 entities that compose MCCE’s national network as well as State, Municipal, and local committees which are based in all regions of Brazil.

SCOPE OF WORK

Monitoring

MCCE tracks the actions of the Brazilian parliament in relation to Law 9840 and Complementary Law 135/2010 and performs social control of the government’s budget and the public administration machinery. It aims to prevent the diversion of public resources for electoral purposes and monitor the actions of candidates.

Surveillance

It aims to ensure the fulfillment of Law 9840/1999 and Complementary Law 135/2010, through the receipt of complaints, process monitoring and submitting referrals the competent authorities.

Education

It contributes to the awareness of voters that "voting has no price, it has consequences." Actions such as meetings, presentations, and seminars are thus offered in municipalities in partnership with MCCE Committees.

Printed material, such as booklets, brochures and posters are distributed during the events.
THE EFFECT OF POPULAR INITIATIVE LAW PROJECTS

Corruption is one of the greatest evils that a people can suffer, especially when related to politics.

MCCE estimates that the “Law against Vote Buying” and the “Clean Slate Law” already withdrew (from 2000 to 2012) thousands of politicians, banning them from taking office preventing them from reproducing corruption, and repelling them from the positions for which they were elected.

Mobilizations in favor of such laws made the Brazilian people wake up and be heard. Marches against corruption often take place around the country and the corrupt politicians are being denounced, losing their posts and even being arrested.

MCCE around the world

In 2010, the year of the approval of the “Clean Slate Law”, MCCE became internationally known, considered a "good practice example" by Pope Benedict XVI. During that same year, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) awarded the Movement for its "outstanding work on mobilizing civil society for the Clean Slate Law".

In 2011, while in Brazil, singer Bono, from ONE Organization, invited the Director of MCCE, Judge Marlon Reis, to learn more about the innovative Law.
Law 9840 was created in 1999 to combat vote buying and the use of public administration machinery during the electoral period.

This law was interestingly created with the strength of the Brazilian population, that organized itself to collect over one million signatures, making it the first popular initiative law in Brazilian history.

In December 2007, the MCCE initiate the "Clean Slate Campaign". The idea was to give an answer to the growing social demand for greater rigor in ineligibility criteria applied to candidates for elective office.

The MCCE, drawing on his experience in the construction and consolidation of Law 9840, led the proposal to collect signatures and submit to parliament a project of another popular initiative, with a proposal of Brazilian society to reform election procedures.

The “Law against Dirty Record” increased barriers of ineligibility in Brazilian electoral system, preventing certain people can apply, based on acts by the previous life.

The road is long, however, the MCCE believes that the “Law against Dirty Record” is part of the way to go until the day when society, by itself, will no more vote for candidates with "dirty record".

The MCCE’s work aims a Brazil where morality and administrative probity are present throughout all elective office.