

INVESTING TO SAVE THE WORLD

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ABSTRACT

Since the early 1900s, globalization of the world economy has created many opportunities for the advancement of human rights; globalization has also paved the way for some of the grossest human rights abuses in modern history. Globalization has played a large role in aggravating numerous human rights violations around the world, for example, labor trafficking and climate change, which disproportionately impact women more than almost any other population around the world. The situation has become so dire that the United Nations, in collaboration with international financial and human rights organizations, has developed new philosophies of Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) for investors who want their money to promote positive social change, composed of due diligence frameworks and regulatory guidelines, to take us off this irreversible path. While there are numerous treatises about the history and implementation of these tools, nothing in the literature applies these tools to real world use cases to demonstrate its effectiveness in eliminating human rights violations against women. This paper examines international guidelines and investment data for initiating comprehensive financial and humanitarian change and compiles legal and administrative tools for keeping corporations accountable to their investors. Ultimately, this paper argues that investors can and should apply these guidelines for the financial and social benefit of women and themselves.

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