

Boycott Bewilderment

Use your wallet politically.
Been saying that for several decades.
It's our most powerful weapon in
the war against capitalism.

But, when I scan sales flyers or search
for staples I often forget how
companies got on my boycott list.

Did I stop buying from them because
I witnessed union busting? Racist
hiring customs? Sexual abuse
of staff? Invoking "sincerely held
beliefs" to discriminate against
Queer folk? Stealing wages and tips from
workers? Firing those disabled by
Covid? Bathroom bans excluding trans
women? Forcing their staff back to the
office with no accommodations?
Products made by U.S. prisoners?

Pollution, fossil fuel extraction,
wanton planetary destruction?
Attacking Indigenous peoples?
Exploiting those in the Global South?
Other predatory practices?

It's difficult to keep track. When I
tried to add projects that support and
profit from Israeli apartheid,
genocide, and ethnic cleansing to
my list, I discovered most targets
already have a place there, because
one type of villainy enables
others. Just as trans erasure leads
to deporting U.S. citizens.

Harmful traditions become noxious
corporations that produce evil
oligarchs who buy politicians
to affirm detestable despots.
Spiraling into history's depths
because too many *don't* remember.