

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 8:48 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: Don't get lied to

**From:** SEIU 503 <alert@seiu503.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020 5:38 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Don't get lied to



We wouldn't normally respond to spam emails from the anti-union group Opt Out Today, but nobody likes a liar.

In their most recent message, Opt Out Today is lying about Our Oregon. Our Oregon is a pro-union group created and funded by SEIU 503 members along with other unions.

Here's what they work on:

1. Winning the Student Success Act in 2019, which raised revenue and funded the best contract we've won in over a decade.
2. Winning Measures 66 & 67 in 2010, which softened budget cuts during the last recession.
3. 10+ years of defending PERS, public service budgets, and your right to join a union from attacks at the ballot box.

**So where does the "defund the police" claim come from?**

One email. *Wait, Opt Out Today is only talking about one email?* Correct. This entire narrative stems from an email in which Our Oregon shared a call to action from advocacy organizations in Portland.

Our Oregon's budget, and SEIU's contribution, has not gone to one email. It has gone to years of work that supports public employees, such as defending PERS, defending your right to join a union, and working in coalition to give working families a voice in the Legislature and at the ballot.

### **Why is Opt Out Today misleading us?**

Whether you're white, black or brown the rich and powerful in this country want to use race, religion, gender and sexuality to divide us. The rich corporate donors behind Opt Out Today want us pointing fingers at each other when in reality, we're all struggling together.

Opt Out Today (also known as the Freedom Foundation) is part of a coalition that lobbied to **slash PERS by 40%**. They signed on to a state "reform" package that called for **layoffs, hiring freezes and privatizing public jobs**. They literally want to take your job away from you. The only thing stopping them is our union. So it's to their advantage to divide us.

### **Okay, so where does SEIU 503 stand on this issue?**

We believe that Black lives matter. Our union is committed to fighting for racial justice and supporting the Black, latino, indigenous and people of color in our union and in our communities.

[Here's the resolution on racial justice that our Board of Directors passed in June.](#) The resolution lays out exactly what we're doing, without the spin from a group that wants to cut your benefits and have your job eliminated.

In Unity,

SEIU 503

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