

The purpose of this project is to examine the ethicality of companies being allowed to hold meaningful quantities of stock in competing businesses. I reviewed the investment profiles of three mutual funds that include several publicly traded companies, all of which have common shareholders with significant ownership of competitor stocks. The ability to own a material quantity of stock in competing businesses should be considered anticompetitive. This practice ultimately harms us, the consumers, and enables the existence of a veiled monopoly. This project aims to draw attention to this practice with the hope of laws being drafted to prevent this form of "legal" collusion, thereby providing some safeguards for consumers and retail investors.