

Research paper

Sociology



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Research Paper Nike, Adidas and Puma T-shirts are some of the clothes that are highly valued by people because they are quality, as well as long lasting.

However, the places that produce these clothes are referred to as sweatshops. A sweatshop is a manufacturing equipment in which workers withstand poor working conditions and low wages. A sweatshop is also defined by long working hours and other defilement of labor rights.

Unfortunately, places referred to as sweatshops are found in countries where labor laws are ignored or disregarded. For instance, a factory that produce Just Jeans is located in not only deteriorating buildings, but also in an environment that is not safe for work. Additionally, the workers that work for companies such as Nike, Puma, The Just Group, FILA, and Umbro (who are mainly young women of the age between 17 and 24) tolerate low wages as well as long working hours.

Bangladesh, a country well known for producing clothes is renowned of offering poor working environment for the workers who take part in making clothes. In connection to this, 24 April 2014 is remembered by many people because of the incident that took place in Rana Plaza, Bangladesh; “ over a thousand garment workers lost their lives when the factory they worked in buckled around them” (McMullen 6). In the same incident, 2, 500 people were also injured. Bodies of workers were found massed under the stairs they had thought to offer refuge. Unfortunately, the accident was an expected disaster; the walls of the building had cracks, and an engineer had also declared the building unsafe. The wages of the workers in that factory was also very low; it is the Rana Plaza tragedy as well as the outcry that followed that resulted to 77% increase in the minimum wage of the workers.

Cambodia is also a country that produces garments. However, like many

other countries that produce clothes workers in Cambodia protest for better wages, as well as good working conditions. For very insignificant pay, workers in Cambodia work forced overtime as well as inhale dangerous chemicals. An industry that has women as the majority denies women the right to exercise maternity leaves right. In most occasions, such industries offer derisive maternity leave as well as dismiss women who are pregnant or ill. A documentary by ITV also found out that factories physically abused their employees as well as kept fire escapes under key and padlock. Apart from receiving low wages, majority of the workers also do not manage to access basic needs in their live because of disregard of living wages by majority of the garments producing factories (McMullen 6). It is also evident that the gap between the minimal wage and living wage has been increasing significantly.

In conclusion, workers who produce the clothes that we wear live under poor conditions in order to ensure they have met their organizations' goals. Apart from poor working conditions and dangerous working buildings, workers involved in producing clothes are poorly paid. The workers are also forced to work overtime with little or no incentives at all. Other workers are forced to work through use of threats. Women working in garment producing countries also experience many challenges in their respective industries. Majority of them are barred from taking maternity leaves through use of threats. Additionally, some factories also force women to work in late hours.

Work Cited

McMullen, Anna. Are The Big Brands Paying the People Who Make Our Clothes Enough to Live On? Tailored Wages. 2014. Web. 26 Oct. 2014.