

Unit 8 Assignment: International Labor Rights

Due: Sunday by 11:59 pm at the end of Unit 8.

International Labor Rights

U.S. imports of manufactured goods have increased in recent years raising questions about the conditions of workers producing those goods. For this week's assignment, respond to the following key questions.

Key questions:

- First, provide a brief (one paragraph) overview of this week's material.
- Discuss whether or not workers are exploited in manufacturing of US imports. In your response consider whether they are better off in that type of job or an alternative. Provide a rationale.
- Examine whether or not US consumers should boycott or increase in the purchase of these goods and the effects that boycott or increase in purchase would have on the workers.
- Should standards be set for work rules in other countries? Or, should work rules be left to the political system in a particular country?
- If work rules are set, who should set them and how should they be enforced?

For information in support of your efforts:

For arguments in favor of rules see:

Workers' Rights Consortium at: <http://www.workersrights.org/>

Fair Labor Association at: <http://www.fairlabor.org/>

Union of Needle trades, Industrial and Textile Employees at: <http://www.uniteunion.org>

For arguments against the rules see:

Business for Social Responsibility at: <http://www.bsr.org/>

National Center for Policy Analysis at: <http://www.ncpa.org>

For other articles see:

Kristof, Nicholas D. and Sheryl Wudunn, "Two Cheers for Sweatshops" at:
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/magazine/20000924mag-sweatshops.html>

Tim Vickery, "Who's Watching the Shop Floor?"

<http://www.fordschool.umich.edu/rsie/acit/Documents/ChristianSciMon8May2001.txt>

For further information sites please see:

University Policy Statements, Designated Suppliers Program, Worker's Rights Consortium at:
<http://www.workersrights.org/dsp.asp>

Mishra, Praci and Petia Topalova, "How Does Globalization Affect Developing Countries?" September, 2007 at: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/irb/2007/eng/03/index.pdf>

Key trade statistics from the WTO, organized by country at:
http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/org6_e.htm

Bhagwati, Jagdish and T.N. Srinivasan, "Trade and Poverty in the Poor Countries" at:
http://www.econ.yale.edu/~srinivas/trade_poverty.pdf

"Why economists are wrong about sweatshops and the anti-sweatshop movement," at:
<http://www.fordschool.umich.edu/rsie/acit/Documents/Miller-Challenge.doc>

University of Wisconsin at: <http://www.news.wisc.edu/packages/sweatshops/>

Your final product will be a paper that:

- Addresses each of the topic/questions above in total.
- Is APA formatted.
- The body is to be 2 pages minimum.

The requirements for your assignment are:

1. Answer each question fully
2. Define the overall subject of each question.
3. Cite at least three (3) resources from this week's materials.

Students: Be sure to read the criteria and review the grading rubric on the next page, by which your paper/project will be evaluated, before you write, and again after you write.

Evaluation Rubric for *Unit 8* Assignment

CRITERIA	Deficient	Proficient	Exemplary	Points Earned
Overview of the Topic	0-13 Points Does not provide an adequate overview or is missing.	14-22 Points Overview is presented, though may not be clear or complete.	38-30 Points Overview is clearly presented including all criteria outlined above.	
Complete Answers	0-11 Points Questions unanswered and/or poorly answered.	12-23 Points All questions answered with 1-2 sentence inputs.	24-45 Points All questions answered with depth and clarity.	
References to Course Materials	0-5 Points Less than 3 references, no assimilation to the questions.	6-10 Points 3 references, minimal assimilation to the questions.	11-15 Points 4 or more references and assimilations show depth and clarity.	
APA Format	0-1 Point Format has errors that impede professional presentation; and/or APA not followed, reference page missing.	2-3 Points APA format and reference page has few errors that do not impede professional presentation.	4-5 Points APA format and reference page is clear, professional, and error free.	
Writing Quality	0-1 Point More than 7 writing errors, to include spelling and punctuation.	2-3 Points More than 4 writing errors, to include spelling and punctuation.	4-5 Points No writing errors.	
Total				100