

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

SEND YOUR NEWS & VIEWPOINT!

Overworked, underpaid, abused on the job? Did you or your co-workers stand up and fight back? Let us know!

DISTRIBUTE THIS NEWSLETTER!

Make copies for friends, family and co-workers!

JOIN US!

Let's unite to fight exploitation!

SUPPORT!

Contribute funds for paper & printing.

STRIKING GARMENT WORKERS IN HAITI WIN REINSTATEMENT!!

In May, garment workers and SOTA union organizers held a strike and shut down the entire Sonapi Industrial Park (where many factories are) in Port-au-Prince to demand a minimum wage of 500 Gourds (\$5/day). Two union organizers – Telemarque Pierre and Felixone Clerger – were illegally fired from their jobs at Premium Apparel, where clothes for Walmart and other retailers are produced.

After intense struggle by the workers plus an international email campaign to pressure the company, we have GOOD NEWS: labor mediators found that the firing was illegal, and on August 8, Telemarque and Felixone got their jobs back! Now the workers are fighting for the pay they are owed for the months they were out of work.

More details and updates:
RapidResponseNetwork.info



Lucitha Julesaint, Jean Louis Marie Ederse, Olga Miallard, and Ruth Joseph – H&H Textile workers and Batay Ouvriye organizers – were also unjustly fired. H&H produces Children's Place, Avia, and Athletic Works brands, carried in stores like Walmart and Marshall's. The fight to get their jobs back continues.

Are You Misclassified?

Job misclassification seems to be increasingly plaguing our workforce. To cut down on overhead and labor costs, companies are hiring workers as independent contractors instead of employees, so they can avoid paying for equipment, insurance, paid sick leave, overtime etc.

Independent contractors, which essentially means workers own their own business, are still often made to abide by strict company rules, wear company uniforms, and use equipment specified by the company. They must work as if they are employees, without the benefits of being an actual employee.

Many of these workers don't even realize they are victims of this shady practice, but find themselves faced with strange deductions from their paychecks. The company may deduct for maintenance, parking, and a number of things that a regular employee wouldn't have to pay for. At the end of the week, many find themselves trapped in debt. This super-exploitation goes beyond wage theft and borders on slavery.

Not only is job misclassification morally wrong, it is also illegal. In order to stop this gross exploitation, workers who are misclassified need to unite and organize against these perpetrator companies. It's the only way this ugly cancer can be stopped.

For information on what constitutes employment, see:
<http://bit.ly/2bxMM7B>

What is capitalism? A brief explanation:
<http://workers-power.org/2016/10/14/what-is-capitalism/>

LAUNDRY WORKERS RALLY IN SUDBURY

Excerpt: "The rally was quickly settled into uninspired speeches from CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees) officials. These officials were pushing a hard protectionist line by setting a competitive regionalist narrative pitting northern Ontario workers against southern Ontario workers. This is shameful practice. How can these professional organizers still be getting away with this anti-worker bullshit? In this struggle, our enemy is management. Management is the one who decided to throw away the laundry workers as though they're disposable humans. The workers in Hamilton had nothing to do with making this layoff happen – Health Sciences North (HSN) management did!"

Read the whole report:
<http://workers-power.org/2016/10/20/sudbury-laundry-workers/>

