

# The Holiday Season is a Time for Joy

*But there is little joy for millions of workers who sew and assemble the gifts we are buying this season and the products we buy throughout the year.*

## You Can Make A Difference!

In Central America and Asia, in Los Angeles and New York, sweatshops exploit women, children, prisoners and slaves - who assemble the clothes we wear, the toys our children play with, even the rugs on our floors.

- Child labor robs 250 MILLION children of their youth each year.
- 1.3 BILLION people in the world today struggle to survive on \$1 per day.
- Every day, 20,000 children die from preventable illness due to poverty.

Child labor ... sexual harassment ... beatings ... firetraps with locked doors. These are the realities for many of the workers who make the products we buy.

***But it doesn't have  
to be that way.***

Workers are exploited because the big stores pressure their contractors for ever lower prices. The contractors pressure the workers for ever lower wages and move their factories to the countries with the lowest wages and fewest labor and environmental protections. That, in turn, drives wages in the U.S. lower in a desperate struggle to keep jobs here.

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### What Can You as a Concerned Consumer Do?

1. Deliver a pre-printed postcard to every store manager where you make a purchase this holiday season explaining that price AND worker rights are both important to you.
2. Download the "Dear Store Manager" card and this leaflet from [www.clrlabor.org](http://www.clrlabor.org) and make copies for your friends and family.
3. Educate yourself and your friends about sweatshop and trade issues that affect our communities here at home and those in other countries by signing up for Labor Alerts from Campaign for Labor Rights at [www.clrlabor.org](http://www.clrlabor.org).
4. Order a "No Sweatshops: Information and Action Kit" from SweatshopWATCH by visiting [www.sweatshopwatch.org](http://www.sweatshopwatch.org).