

Protect American Jobs and Communities—Don't Shop Wal-Mart!

Please reconsider shopping here. Why?

Wal-Mart is the world's largest company and uses its monopoly to lower wages and the standard of living for American workers, to ship many jobs overseas, and to destroy local communities. How?

Wal-Mart gets many of its products from overseas. It is the largest importer of goods from China, where it can pay workers in sweatshop conditions as little as 13 cents per hour, lowering the standard of living even in developing countries. U.S. companies that employ U.S. workers cannot compete with such prices.*

For every two poor-paying, bad-benefits job that Wal-Mart creates, three decent community jobs are lost. Small local businesses cannot compete with Wal-Mart's prices and frequently go under when this giant moves to town. Once Wal-Mart has forced out other local retailers, it can raise its prices.

Wal-Mart, with over a million employees, is the largest private employer in the country. While Wal-Mart eliminates decent local jobs and pays its CEO millions of dollars, the average Wal-Mart worker employed for 40 hours a week only earns about \$15,000 per year. Many Wal-Mart workers are also kept under-employed. Although it claims that 70% of its workers are fulltime employees, Wal-Mart neglects to mention that it considers 28 hours a week as "fulltime." Only about half as many Wal-Mart employees have company health insurance as employees of other large companies.

Wal-Mart, which made over \$240 billion last year, has a retail monopoly in this country. When offering large contracts to other retailers, it advises them to also cut quality, lower wages, end benefits, fire workers, close plants and stores, and ship more jobs overseas to keep product prices low.

Does this mean a lower cost for specific products? Yes, but at what cost to us and to our children in the long run?

Wal-Mart is creating a different America—one without a middle class, where there are only the poor and the rich. What America do you want your children to inherit? We are all building it now. Just say NO to Wal-Mart.

Please shop responsibly. Do not shop at Wal-Mart.

*When the FTC charged Wal-Mart with not appropriately identifying the country of origin on some of its products, the company chose to remove the items from shelves rather than disclose where they were from. Don't believe Wal-Mart's claims about its standards for factory suppliers, either. When Wal-Mart "inspectors" visit overseas factories, they warn them ahead of time; the whole thing is a farce.