

More Unions in the United States Workforce

Equality is one of the most sought after traits in our country right now and having more unionized jobs could help create a more equal place to live and work. Unions back workers and draw people together to install a change that they are longing for. Imagine one person trying to speak out against an issue; their small voice is probably going to get lost. Now if you can imagine a group of 50 people speaking out on this same issue it is going to draw much more attention and people are probably going to notice. A large group of voices stands out much louder than a single person speaking up about an issue. Power in numbers is just one of the reasons that unions are important for workers in the United States. Ranging from better working conditions to higher wages and ensuring safety in the workplace, unions help American workers gain better benefits in their jobs.

From a young age I always wanted to work with kids when I grew up. When I was younger I thought this might be as a nurse on a maternity or pediatrics floor but as I got older and made more decisions about my own future, I decided to major in elementary education. One of the wonderful perks of education is that it is a union position. As an educator I can choose to be part of the teachers union. Unions are responsible for helping teachers get a fair wage, reasonable work hours, and they will back teachers if administration is treating them unfairly. Unfortunately, many employers are looking for every way possible to save money and gain the most profit from their business. This means they are often reluctant to keep older and more experienced workers, as they deserve a higher level of pay that the employer would rather not like to pay. New and

less experienced workers look more attractive as they can be paid less for the same position. This can result in the highly qualified and current employee being let go in an effort to conserve money on the business owners end. This situation is often seen in school districts. As teachers get older, the new teachers look more enticing as they are lower on the payscale. Unions help protect the position of these older teachers so they are not replaced for unjust reasons.

Unions can protect a worker from being asked to do an excessive amount of work or being tasked with unattainable responsibilities. An example of this would be asking a single teacher to teach 50 students at once. The school may feel that this is the best option in an effort to minimize costs of hiring a second teacher but that teacher with 50 students is going to be incredibly overwhelmed with the workload. If a school teacher tried to do this and the teacher was a union member, the union would fight for the district to hire a second teacher to lessen the workload on just one person. Unions are looking out for the everyday worker, not the best way to make the most money.

Health care coverage rights is another way that joining a union can greatly benefit Americans. Our country is seeing a rising number of health care expenses which can cause a lot of strain on its citizens. This strain not only causes stress directly on the person but it can lead to larger problems like higher rates of divorce and fatal levels of stress. Having good medical insurance can really help relieve some stress in families, thus keeping families together and happier. Unions work by banding together and working in numbers to create a plan and communicate with employers to gain quality benefits for their members. Members can share their opinions within the union and have a say in the final plan that goes to the company administration.

If more workers in the United States were part of unions there would be an overall higher level of peace amongst Americans. There would be an overall higher level of equality for the United States. Without unions many workers would be in unfair working conditions, getting paid unfair wages, and would have little to no job security. Even if it is unintentional, the owners of companies are looking out for their best interest rather than that of their workers. Unions help take away some of the power from the company owners and create an equal and healthy working environment for everyone. Unions believe and fight for the belief that everyone should be rewarded for their hard work, not just the rich.