

Group: Poor Workers: Eamon, Jasmin, Jackie, Tiarra, Lindsey, Nashay

Prosecutors: Jasmin, Eamon

Defendants: Nashay, Jackie

Defense Attorneys: Tiarra, Lindsey

## **Defense Attorneys:**

### Opening statement:

When Multinational Corporations invests in our poor countries, I wouldn't say it's necessarily a good thing. Looking out from a closed window, many "economically stable countries" such as the United States believe that these corporations provided a little bit of hope for us struggling workers but it's the total opposite. The corporations strip us of basic human rights and destroy our land, which is all we have left in the world. It's an endless cycle of abuse that us workers face everyday. We are forced into labor and are not given the opportunities to live and fulfilling and prosperous life like their rich counterparts.

Multinational Corporations such as Nike or Apple and etc. put their investments into our struggle undeveloped poor countries which are in bad need of money. However the money going into our country doesn't always seems the way it looks. What these corporations actually try to do hide is that with this investment comes a requirements. The companies bargain with our countries for the investment. For the investment, it forces our country has to have little to none restrictions on how us workers are treated. This is because the Poor Country Ruling Elite allows us to be subjected to horror to satisfy their greedy hearts and not give back to the people of the land.

We, the workers are exposed to all kinds of inhuman working conditions being paid pennies on the dollar to take care of our entire families. No making enough money buy our basic needs like food, our youth are forced into the factories. There are also no limitations on how old a person has to be to work, some children as young as 3 are working around heavy dangerous machinery. But we have no choice to send them because the U.S CONSUMERS DEMAND MORE PRODUCTS. Workers can't even strike to form unions to fight against these major companies. Also the land is ripped apart trying to dig for the materials needed for the products. This is all for the US. Consummation.

Now before we end, we have accused everyone but the System of Profit. The System of Profit has placed the hungry and the need for money and consumption in the minds of the Us. Consumers, the Multinational Corporations, and the Poor Country Ruling Elite. The system has set up a way of thinking that profit is all you need and it doesn't matter how you get it as long as you have it. We the Poor country workers, are "peasants who work for them" as the Multinational Corporation stated. We are just a worthless tool used to fulfill greed. But by today, you shall know that we worth more, and we deserve more. You are nothing without us.

## **Defendants:**

- Most of us don't make more than \$80 a month. Our conditions are terrible, usually with no running water, no kitchen to cook food. There are people in our village where they have younger

siblings, on the brink of death or already dead because they're starving. With the money that we make from the factory, it allows us to send some of that home to our families. (Bangladesh)

- Rather than an education, we have to work in the factory
- We're married off when we're teenagers, and have to support our families
- There aren't many job opportunities outside of the sweatshops
- Recently three factories owned by Puma, SE, and Adidas, more than 200 Cambodians have fainted due to poor working conditions.(Cambodia)
- Poor ventilation, strong chemicals
- With our poor wages, we cannot make a good living
- How has the ruling elite "soldout" the poor workers?
- Motivations for multinational corporations to locate in our country:
- It's for the support of our families, with minimal chances for other work, this is basically all we have
- (LOOK UP HOW OUR WORK COULD IMPROVE IF U.S. WORKERS DEMANDS FROM CORPORATIONS CHANGED)
- We have had national strikes, and anti-government protests. Even on April 17th, 18 unions plan to hold a week long strike, to almost double our monthly wages to \$160. The problem is we're usually suppressed by security forces.

A sweatshop is defined by the U.S. Department of Labor as a factory that violates 2 or more labor laws.

In developing countries, an estimated 250 million children ages 5 to 14 are forced to work. Because women make up 85 to 90% of sweatshop workers, employers force them to take birth control and routine pregnancy tests to avoid supporting maternity leave or providing appropriate health benefits. 85% of sweatshop workers are young women between the ages of 15-25. In order to meet the basic nutritional needs of their families, sweatshop workers spend between 50% to 75% of their income on food alone.

We are given wages that are below the price of living in our country. The average sweat shop worker is

Typical sweatshop employees, ninety percent of whom are women, are young and uneducated

## **Prosecutors:**

### **Multi-national:**

- How does putting factories in poorer countries benefit your cooperations?
  - Since it benefits you in \_\_\_\_\_ (that way) do you think you could get those same benefits by doing something else like say putting those factories in the Us and making jobs for all the unemployed which is 6.7% in the US?
- In your opening statement you said you Blame the system yet you say It is a man-made concept referring to the system again can you explain or elaborate please?
- You also say you need everyone's cooperation yet you aren't willing to listen to the workers you employ? the definition of cooperation according to Dictionary.com is an act or instance of working or acting together for a common purpose or benefit; joint action.
- In your charges it states you intentionally locate in countries that are run by un-democratic

and repressive governments. Is this true? Why?

-If you are **Maximizing opportunities for more jobs** than what gives you the right to make these opportunities so horrible?

You said there are many sources on the internet to find out this information but like the Us consumers said before they have to see to believe so you don't make this known because you know that they have to see to believe or because you are trying to hide something?

System:

- Your first rule of your system states, "It must make a profit, or it dies. In search of profit, Capital travels the world like a heat-seeking missile, looking for the best situation for itself." What do you mean by this?

- When you say, "it MUST make a profit," would you turn to any way possible to make a profit? (like laying people off or increasing the work hours?)

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US Consumer:

- Where does your need for items come from, exactly?

- What is *your* intention on changing the entire global economy?

-Is it true that you as US consumers own many things like Clothes and computers?

-If you have these computers then you have access to the internet right?

- You said 'you are not informed about what goes on behind the products' but you have the resources that we probably made for you that gives you the information behind these happenings with just one click of a button. Are you not curious?

Or do you want to be ignorant of these facts?

You have more power than any other people under government because you get to have a say so why don't you say something?

You said you see your dog everyday and you don't have the people in the third world countries on your mind everyday,

Poor Worker Elite:

- It is your job to represent us (Poor Workers) Correct?

-If this is your job why do you not listen to the numerous strikes we have had including the one of the most recent in Cambodia "two men were part of a group of 21 arrested after a Jan. 3 shootout by security forces during a strike by garment workers demanding higher minimum wages in a crackdown that left five people dead and several others wounded."

-Again in Cambodia "More than 100,000 Cambodian factory workers refused to work overtime hours" even when we speak up we are not heard do you have ears?

-Historically we have not viewed money and profit the same way the western countries have what made you desire this in your opinion?

- Why have you never demanded the things we have asked of you?

-Have you ever asked the Multinational Corporations to better our working conditions?

-What benefits do you get from the multinational corporations locating in our countries?

-Do you think we enjoy these benefits?

-Don't you think that as humans with basic human needs and human wants as well that we would enjoy some of these benefits?

## **Evidence Bank**

[Link](#) Against Poor Country Workers: A woman named Mukhta Mollah in Bangladesh works "Eight hours a day or longer in this hot and sweaty factory. Six days a week." Mukhta knows she won't become rich, but she does nothing to change it. Poor Country Workers make up the majority of the country. If they wanted to change their work place, they could if they rebelled. Yet their lack of courage prevents them from rebelling, and therefore their conditions stay the same. The people have the power, and they're not using it (Thanks to Zoe)

[Link](#) "Thousands people here who are under the persecution of the Chinese Communist Party Government will thank and remember you forever." Can help defend workers and against corporations. (Thanks to Alexander)

[Link](#) Evidence for and against Poor Factory Workers: Most factory workers have no choice but to support the system of profit because without a wage (small or large) they couldn't provide for their families (+). Yet there has been many times of revolution in history and factory workers are more than capable of striking which will destroy the system (-). (Thanks to Javier)

[Link](#) has evidence that the factories are really the only decent choice for the worker, and it can be used to defend the workers and possibly the system of profit if it can be proven that the system tried to help the workers here. "She knows that she won't get rich; she sends nearly half of her \$20-a-week wages home to her family. But she's grateful that the salary, no matter how small, gave her the means to escape her home village and the fate of her schoolgirl friends."

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/money/2013/12/03/247360855/two-sisters-a-small-room-and-the-world-behind-a-t-shirt>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia-pacific/2014/04/hundreds-cambodian-garment-workers-faint-201443131659267499.html>

## **Trial Notes**

### The Multi

- Offer people jobs.
- Something is better than nothing.
- It's all for the US consumers.
- Understand they are in the wrong
- Maximizing opportunities for more jobs
- Blame the system
- It is a man-made concept
- Require everyone's cooperation
- Money is power
- Want to change money value-but takes a lot of time
- Also blames US consumers because they are needy and demanding

### The System

- Capitalism is not to blame
- Capitalism is the first and foremost the natural evolution of the barter system.
- Hopelessly manipulating and victims of greed
- When it becomes altered it's no longer natural.

## The Consumers

- American consumers are not smart/informed enough not to purchase clothing from sweatshops
- Don't have a say in how products are made
- Cannot be held accountable because even when they try to make a difference, they only care about money and will do anything to get it.
- False advertisements.
- They are not informed
- We can't make a difference

## The Elites

- Fought to take a step ahead.
- Divided the public to groups
- They steal from us to reach their goals.
- It's safer for the children to work in the factories instead of the streets.
- "we don't want our citizens to end up starving, like in Ethiopia. (they starve anyway with their low wages)"
- We apologize for the workers, we are guilty because you're not supporting us.  
Your only mistake is that you do not support us your government  
We cannot do that much without your help

## The Workers

- We believe we are completely innocent
- How do you expect us to have the resources if our government doesn't have the resources?
- We shouldn't have to rebel to have basic human rights
- To us revolution is rebelling against the people in power to change what is now

## The System

- All I ask is to be given my basic human rights.
- Make less than \$80 a month.
- I don't want to send my child to work in factories but that's the reality now.
- We can have a revolution because we are shut down by the government.
- "It's not the nets holding us back, it's the people who made the nets."

## US Consumer

- We shouldn't have to protest! It's our basic right.
- Jobs that are offered are not good ones and they are unattainable.

## The Elites

- We control how fast I was to sew the shirt.
- We either have no life style or we have a poor one.
- If our government has no power but how can we have power.

- We can't make our own jobs because we have no money.
- We can't make our own jobs because we have no education.
- I chose to put my life in danger for my family or die of hunger.

## The Poor Workers Elite

### Workers

- To help everyone in the country, to help the people advance.
- The police has a mine of their own.
- Sweatshops are some of the best jobs available
- Primary goal is wealth
- We haven't enslaved people, they give them an option to be in factories.
- The elites don't represent the workers, but help progress everyone to the point where everyone is as wealthy as the average American
- "Your people agree the sweatshops is helping them, and the sweatshops are the only jobs available"
- "We see all the other western countries as happy. Our workers little to nothing at all. We've given them the options to the people to work in the factories."
- "We take what the people have to say into consideration"

## **Everyone vs. Poor Country Ruling Elite**

### The US Consumers

- We value our people more than they do the products.
- The conditions they have will get better over time
- They are bad now because they are poorer country.
- They want to play things safe
- They believe it *is* going to get better.
- Everyone in these countries have lower profit than the US consumers
- Money doesn't buy happiness but with a certain amount they will be happier
- They are in the factories because they don't have money.
- The workers get overwhelmed and tend not to enjoy their lives
- They are working with the MNC to get money to improve conditions in their country.
- Our conditions are bad now as a country
- it's true that the workers in our countries are abused emotionally physically and mentally

### System

- Tough love makes them better
- No examples of compassion for people
- Without them needing money then they wouldn't need money?
- If they keep getting money they will become more powerful
- Bounce back from debt with the Multinational
- We are being forced into bad conditions by the first world companies because their products need our resources.

## Multinational

- We let the corporation in to get money
- We need their approval.
- Consequences outweigh the awards
- There are child labor laws
- If we wanted our people to stay in the slums we wouldn't be doing this.
- It needs to happen(referring to the jobs and the poor)
- We need these factories, it's the best option we've come up with.

## **Everyone vs. US Consumers**

### The Elites

- They don't even know how much money was spent in their own home
- Goods are a necessity.
- Most consumers do not know
- Cannot put a price on a human's life
- The most we can probably do is protest
- They would like to buy things that won't sweatshop made by it costs too much.

### The System

- On a day to day base, I don't have the workers on my mind.
- They do not connect with the workers because it is not their reality

### Workers

- They want change, but everyone is in debt so it's hard to change.
- The media doesn't inform us.
- It's less known because it's hidden
- The need comes from the system to want more, the system brainwashing them.
- The US consumers consume because the system of profit
- System of profit influences them
- They need to see to believe

### Multinational

- There is usually an idea of information, so they do not know or can obtain information on something.

## **Everyone vs. The System Of Profit**

### Workers

- Look for the possible place for the lowest work price for profit.
- We can't be willing to do something without consequences.
- We started off with the trade system until man brought in money.
- We are a tool that has no emotional connection.
- \*Long Pause\* No, sweat shops are not acceptable.

## US Consumers

- We would like the rules to be enforced but we don't have control.
- We didn't decide this
- We are just a result
- Companies got greedy

## Multi

- Would modern day sweat shop exist without the system? No it would not exist, but there would be no civilization.
- Without the system there is no fair way to trade

## Elite

- Started off as an idea to help people, but elite makes laws that abuse us and people.
- We are victimized by these elites
- Do you know who made the system? No Do you? I would assume merchants

## **Everyone vs. Multi**

### Multi:

- It's all for the money, it's all for the profit

### System

- It's important to be successful in life
- Is it possible to pay the workers more and still make profit? Yes.

### Us. Consumers

- consumers would complain if we had all our factories in the US
- We have nothing to do with the conditions in the factories
- people do not ask us about the making of our clothes
- There are sources on the internet for you to find out this information

### The Workers

- Consumers are able to save money with our products by putting the workers in factories.
- We don't have a connection with the country.
- We do target these countries but we are benefiting them. They start at the bottom and now they are working their way up.

### The Elite

- The consumers are the most guilty, the consumers are basically the ones that feed us.
- We decided what we make by what consumers want.
- Do you make things that people don't really need just to make a profit? Yes, but they are consumer demanded items.
- Do you decide to stay ignorant about the workers conditions?

## Closing Statements

### Workers



- They don't care about the people, they care about the wealth.
- Us. citizens are spoiled little children.
- If one did not have the other everything would fall.

#### Elites

- You have the right to protest and sometimes you get arrested but that's not our fault.
- we can't know what's going on if you don't tell us.
- You never called the police
- The factories are controlled by the companies not the Government
- You the system cannot talk about love because you made it all about money
- love is our power not money
- time does not help
- The system said it was created by man.
- The system of profit was created by first world countries

#### The Consumers

- We are all struggling for money
- The multi blames us because others don't tell us.
- We are not guilty for something others

#### The system

- The system is apart of mathematics.
- Anyone with the proper education can do the mathematics.
- A basic mathematic equation

#### The Multi

- We EQUAL value opportunity.
- Little money is better than no money
- Elites are responsible for their country
- We benefit these poor country
- Just because we aren't making the info public, it's because we don't know what's going either.
- The gov't is in charge of the country and the conditions in the factories
- The consumers don't care where their products companies

#### Closing Statement

The trial that has ensued has really shed light on the problems that have plagued us, the Workers, for many years. The elites, consumers, the system and the Multinational corporation are the reasons that the less fortunate continue to suffer. We are the true victims, as the Poor Country Ruling Elite have proven. They believe their jobs, the jobs that us, the poor workers, slave at day in and day out, suffering terrible health issues and never given enough sleep, are "The best jobs out there!" for us. They don't care about the people. They only care about wealth, as they said their primary goal was to obtain it. They even admit that the working conditions are terrible for the people; but as long as their stacking cash-our well being doesn't matter. It's a

terrible cycle the PCRE do not attempt to break. They want money, so they sell out the people and then pretend to care later. If there is even a slightest bit of doubt that they are guilty in your mind, think about this: The PCRE have slighted education for children in order for them to work like slaves. There are no child slave labor laws according to them. Where is all the money going to? Why isn't it going towards educating the children that will soon rule the country-oh wait- not because they will be breaking their fingers trying sew a pair of Nikes together for the spoiled US Consumers.

The US Consumers do have a certain level of guilt. Certainly not as bad as the Poor Country Ruling Elite-but they are one of the main reasons that this cycle continues. The US citizens are kind of like children. They are naive and ignorant. What effects my people does not matter to them because it is not their reality. We create computers, cell phones, and even books made for them in order to EDUCATE them while also giving pleasure. Whilst they have more resources to go around-they believe it is impossible for them to look into any real world problems because it's blocking them for completing level 53 in Candy Crush. However, this lifestyle is all apart of a system.

The system is a man-made thing-yet affects so many people. The system was composed of ideals that were meant to create some sort of structure, but look what has happened as the result of the System being created? They blame the elites, but on both ends, if one did not have the other-the elites would suffer as well. Take away the system, and the construction of society would have no backbone. So in actuality, the elites, the multinational corporations and the us consumers are all the product of the system. The system has a mind of its own. Similar to that of the computer legacy Tron, the Master Control Program was a man-made artificial intelligence that soon became independent and overthrew it's creators. The system is no different.

So after this trial took place, us, the poor workers, ask if you all prosecute these terrible beings to the fullest. Since we can't do it because our hands are sore from putting apple computers together day in and day out; its all up to you.