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LABOR LAW: WORKERS' RIGHTS

From 1700 to today

BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



1700:

1. No longer craftsmen, but wage laborers, that worked to get money using machinery that did not belong to them.

 Overcrowding and precarious hygiene conditions, the spread of epidemic diseases such as tuberculosis, typhus and smallpox.

1. Families were larger to have more workers.

CHILDRENS AND INDUSTRIES:

- Males and females, were employed in the industrial establishments, as early as 7-8 years of age.
- Children, with their small stature and thin fingers, could use the machinery better.
- The foremen did not allow a moment's break. Often, in order not to stop the machines, the work continued day and night.
- Accidents were very frequent.
- During their slavery in the factory they had not only had **no education**, but they had not even received the professional education necessary to earn a living. They only knew how to perform a mechanical and repetitive operation on the machines, which inevitably bound them also in the future to the slavery of the factory.

WOMEN AND INDUSTRIES:

• **Female** workers were mostly employed in unskilled jobs that they carried out under the supervision of male workers, receiving a **lower wage**.

 The conditions of the working environment were harsh: dimly lit and poorly ventilated rooms, noise, dust.

 The dramatic conditions in which women worked in factories became the subject of social inquiries and reform projects first in Great Britain and then in all the countries involved in the industrialization processes.







AFTER THE REVOLUTION

A NEW ERA:

After years of strikes and revolutions, we get to now, workers have written and inviolable rights that make work livable and safe.



1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

3. Everyone who works has the right to just and favorable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity and supplemented, if necessary, with other means of social protection.

2. Everyone, without discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

4. Everyone has the right to found trade unions and to join them for the defense of his own interests.

DISCUSSION:

- 1.In your opinion, what are the most visible differences between pre-industrial revolution and post-revolution?.
- 2. What would be the right salary in relation to the amount of working hours?
- 3. What advantages could take Italian system from Czech system and viceversa?