

Work, Dignity and Living Wages?

by Stephen Elliott-Buckley - Friday, October 31, 2014

<https://politicsrespun.org/2014/10/work-dignity-and-living-wages/>



1. A strong union.
2. Corporations that understand the social contract.
3. Corporations that know a tad smaller profit here contributes to more dignity throughout society.
4. Corporations that recognize the value of unions.
5. The [living wage in Vancouver this year is \\$20.10](#), almost double the minimum wage.
6. The "precariat" are precarious proletariats. We have too many of them; but fewer in Denmark!
7. Let's follow their lead!

What Danish fast food workers have that their American counterparts do not is a powerful union, and fast food franchise owners who are willing to make a little less of a profit, though they still do make a profit. Denmark is also a much smaller country, with a higher cost of living and a huge social safety net. And yes, a fast food burger is a little more expensive in Denmark than here in America.

Martin Drescher, the general manager of HMSHost Denmark, the airport restaurants operator, told the Times: “We have to acknowledge it’s more expensive to operate. But we can still make money out of it — and McDonald’s does, too. Otherwise, it wouldn’t be in Denmark.”

He also said: “The company doesn’t get as much profit, but the profit is shared a little differently. We don’t want there to be a big difference between the richest and poorest, because poor people would just get really poor. We don’t want people living on the streets. If that happens, we consider that we as a society have failed.”

Can you imagine?

[Burger King and McDonald's Pay Fast Food Workers \\$20 an Hour in Denmark | Alternet.](#)