

## PREAMBLE TO THE IWW CONSTITUTION

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the Earth.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

## IWW – a radically different union

The IWWs unique approach to unionism is based on grassroots action and real democracy from the bottom up, because it is run and controlled by its members.

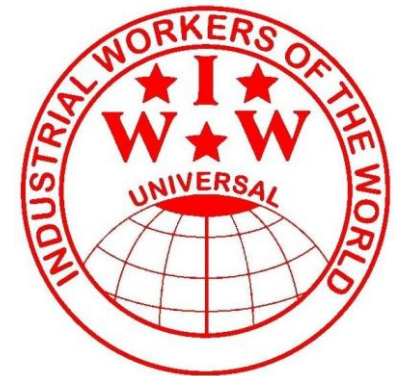
- We organize all workers. No worker is excluded because of race, religion, nationality, sex, or sexual orientation.
- We have no fat cat bureaucracy running the union, so dues are low.
- Because our members run and control the union, we are flexible for full time, casual, and part time workers.
- Our culture of grass roots democracy and creative action means that we don't cozy up to bosses or drag our heels.
- We can help you with collective organizing with your fellow workers, as well as individual grievances.

**The IWW is THE UNION for you. Join us today**

**CONTACT US:  
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*industrial*  
**WORKERS OF THE WORLD** 

**HELP!  
I'VE  
BEEN  
ROBBED  
ROBBED BY THE  
CAPITALIST  
SYSTEM**



# IWW-the radical union for all workers

Your employer will do whatever is in the interest of making profits, **at your expense**. You will only be paid the lowest wage that your employer can get away with paying you. You will be worked whatever number of hours it will take to benefit your employer. Too many or too few for you? It doesn't matter to them.

The **IWW** is committed to a different future where workers run the show and bosses are a thing of the past.

The **Industrial Workers of the World** is a union for all workers, dedicated to organizing on the job, in our industries and in our communities. We organize to win better conditions today and to build a world without bosses, a

world in which production and distribution are organized by workers to meet the needs of the entire population, not just a handful of exploiters.

We organize industrially – that is to say, we organize all workers on the job into one union, rather than dividing workers by trade, so that we pool our strength to fight the bosses together.

Since the **IWW** was founded in 1905, we have recognized the need for a truly international worker's movement in order to confront the global power of the bosses.

We invite you to become a member whether or not the **IWW** has representation rights in your workplace. We organize the worker, not just the job, recognizing that genuine unionism is not about government certification or employer

recognition but about workers coming together to address common concerns. Sometimes this means striking or signing a contract. Sometimes it means refusing to work with an unsafe machine or following the bosses' orders so literally that nothing is accomplished. Sometimes it means agitating around particular grievances in a specific workplace or across an industry.

Because the **IWW** is a democratic, member-run union, the workers directly involved make the decisions about what issues to address and what tactics are pursued. **IWW** members can count on the solidarity of their union.

