

The Trade Connection

Toxic, unsafe imports didn't just magically end up in our homes and communities. These products got here because of failed trade policies that are not only threatening our families, but killing our jobs. Here's the link:

North American corporations that want cheaper products at any cost send abroad the manufacturing of items ranging from toys to tires. These products used to be made in many of our communities, but now these decent jobs are gone. At the same time, government regulatory agencies that are supposed to inspect imports have lost funding and staffing and have consistently sided with corporations over consumers.



When production is sent to China and other developing nations, there often is a lack of environmental, health and safety and worker standards. Often workers are forced to work in sweatshop conditions for pennies a day. This allows for cheaper production that beefs up corporate profits, but at what cost to workers, consumers and our environment?



This profits-at-any-cost mentality has resulted in unsafe imported products – from red-leaded steel made in China to lead-laced toys and poisoned pet food that is killing our kids and pets. Unregulated globalization and unfair trade also has devastated communities where good manufacturing jobs used to help build the middle class.