

Natalie Brown

Project Green Day 23

ShaNatIzaCri

Montgomery College

Day 23- Greener

My favorite shirt is a pink top from Forever 21. Even though it is my favorite it is becoming close to unwearable already even though I have had it for under a year. I purchased it because it was on sale for Black Friday so it was very cheap. The tag tells me it was made in Mexico with “imported materials”.

When I looked up “Forever 21 Mexico Factory” I got a ton of articles about the poor wages workers receive. Workers are getting paid way under a living salary. This means my shirt cost so little because the people who made it were paid so little. The salary these workers are making is barely enough to cover the cost of living. It is such a sad reality of these clothes.

I wore this shirt to work inside out and received a ton of comments from customers wondering if I realized my shirt was inside out. It actually sparked a lot of interesting conversation, especially because I work at an outlet mall where fast fashion thrives. A lot of the people I had conversations with knew the impacts they were having by supporting these companies and feeding into our consumerist society. On the other spectrum, I had a few customers become dismissive or annoyed when I mentioned the challenge and even one customer said that as long as she can buy things cheap she’s happy. It was sad, but the people who actually had discussions with me seemed to outweigh the negative people.



Photo



shanatizacri The tag on my favorite shirt says "Forever 21, imported fabric, made in Mexico". Forever 21 is notorious for using sweatshops to create such cheap clothing, which means this shirt was probably made by someone making under a living wage and suffering just to make the clothes we wear. I wore my shirt inside out to spark conversation with people about where the clothes we wear come from. #pgc2018 #whomademyclothes @turninggreenorg @truecostmovie @greenamerica @fibershed



