

## Argument Against Not Including Workers 21 and Younger in \$15 Minimum Wage

By ChueKongPheng Xiong, Senior at Johnson High School and Urban Roots Employee

June 18th, 2018

The concept of manipulating people to achieve your greed. There are people that don't know any better. That's not the case anymore. More people and including immigrant workers are becoming more aware that they need more money to live, so what is next on the list of people we could manipulate. People that are young, they also don't know any better. We could pay them less, below ten dollars or even less. They don't care how much they get paid, they are not educated enough to know the difference yet. Plus, they didn't need any money for their financial future, because high school doesn't teach how to pay your bills or how to sustain a bank account. Eventually they will get older, and they won't know how to sustain a bank account either, so they will be in debt, and they have to keep working for to pay back the loans. They aren't smart.

Youth, I mean, kids are dumb aren't they, right? These kids won't talk back at us. There isn't a reason that they even would try. If the kids somehow has the guts to talk back, they won't know anything, because kids are dumb, right? Why would these kids talk back, because they has the same thing to say, right? There's no way that the kids don't know how to start to strike. Wait, the gun control protest doesn't count, even if every high school did a protest, right?

These kids don't have a real bank account, and they don't know how to use it perfectly. They won't be prepared for their future life, well we just have to keep manipulating them even the kids are older. Heck, let's just put them in a different spot like segregating them from different bathrooms, foods, and than money from real to fake. Just because


kid are dumb, and aren't ready to be like us smart, greedy, wealthy business folks, but not really ever they'll become wealthy in their life.

I'm not rich greedy business owner, but I do have a brain. What you're saying sounds like we're too young, that what you're doing is good for us, but really is it good for us? We're the next generation to become responsible for our community. We need living wages, a \$15 minimum wage.

ChueKongPheng Xiong, rising Senior at Johnson High School. Wednesday July 18th, 2018.

Statement of Context for Attached Petition:

"Pheng Xiong, along with Marquise Tatum and several other friends and classmates, collected more than 200 signatures from Johnson High School students by tabling in the cafeteria during lunch over several weeks. They used petitions like these, and explained the youth carve-out to signers and talked through the issue with them. The following signers support raising the minimum wage to \$15 without a carve-out for any young workers or students."



**I support a \$15/hour  
minimum wage in St Paul!**

I demand that City Hall pass a minimum wage of  
\$15/hour in St Paul, with no tip penalty, carve-outs, or  
exemptions.

- No one working should live in poverty, and \$9.50 is NOT a living wage
- \$15/hour will help mitigate the wealth gap, disproportionately affecting workers of color, immigrant workers, and women
- With corporations like Target and US Bank in the metro area, there's more than enough to go around.
- Raising the wage puts money in the pockets of workers, who spend it immediately in the local economy

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation/Employer** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ward** \_\_\_\_\_

Celeste Robinson

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15 NOW  
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