**Handout # 11a: Would You Believe...?**

**Read the statistics. Which globalization facts do you find the most interesting? Why?**

-In 2010, New Westminster becomes the first city in Canada to adopt a living wage policy.[[1]](#endnote-1)

-British Columbia has the lowest start work age (child labour age) in North America.[[2]](#endnote-2)

-Canadian companies that have used the temporary foreign workers program, designed to allow employers to hire migrant workers for jobs where skilled Canadian workers are not available: Tim Hortons, Girl Guides of Canada, and CBCs Hockey Night in Canada. [[3]](#endnote-3)

-Average Bangladeshi garment factory worker wage in 2013: less than $43 a month.[[4]](#endnote-4)

-In 2008, almost half the world’s people lived on less than $2.50/day[[5]](#endnote-5)

-A generic $14 polo shirt made in Bangladesh actually costs a retailer only $5.67. Workers see just 12 cents a shirt. That's about half of what a Chinese worker makes. For that shirt, the factory owners will earn 58 cents, almost five times a worker’s wage. [[6]](#endnote-6)

-1,127 was the final death toll from the Rana Plaza garment factory collapse in Bangladesh.

-In 2010, one third of all the private wealth was owned by the world’s richest .0001% of the population.[[7]](#endnote-7)

-The richest country on earth has the widest gap between the rich and poor of any industrial nation. [[8]](#endnote-8)

**-Unionized women in Canada e**arn 39 per cent more in wages than women who are not in a union, are twice as likely to have pensions, are 25 per cent more likely to have paid sick leave, have 11 days more vacation and paid holidays, and have additional legal rights, stronger job security and access to professional representation [[9]](#endnote-9)

-The pay gap in Canada between non-union women and men stands at 75%. The pay gap between unionized women and unionized men stands at 93%. [[10]](#endnote-10)

-In 1998: the US spent 8 billion dollars on cosmetics, Europe spent 11 billion on ice cream, Japan spent 35 billion on business entertainment, the world spent 400 billion on narcotics, and the world spent 780 billion on war.[[11]](#endnote-11)

-In 1998, it would have cost 6 billion to get free primary schooling for all the kids in the world, 9 billion for water and sanitation for everyone in the world, 12 billion for reproductive health for all women in the world, and 13 billion for health and nutrition for all the worlds’ people.[[12]](#endnote-12)

-The 10 largest transnational corporations have total income greater than that of the 100 poorest countries.[[13]](#endnote-13)

-Average trade tariff on imported manufactured goods in 1947: 47. %. In 1980: 6%. In 1997, less than 3%. [[14]](#endnote-14)

-1995: the number of messages sent by email in the US exceeded those sent by post for the first time.[[15]](#endnote-15)

-6 corporations controlled 91% of the worlds recorded music business in 1997.[[16]](#endnote-16)

-6.6 million is the average compensation for Canada's top 100 CEOs. Of Canada’s top earning 100 CEO s, 0 were women in 2009.[[17]](#endnote-17)

-Single moms in Canada have a net worth of only about $17,000, while single dads have about $80,000. [[18]](#endnote-18)

-The global number of child labourers stands at 215 million, only seven million less than in 2004[[19]](#endnote-19)

-In 2012, Wal-Mart was the largest private employer in the world. .[[20]](#endnote-20)

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11. “Poverty Facts and Stats”, by Anup Shah, Global Issues: Social, Political, Economic and Environmental Issues that Affect Us All. [www.globalissues.org](http://www.globalissues.org/), retrieved July 22, 2013. And that's before Iraq and Afghanistan! [↑](#endnote-ref-11)
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