

How has "free trade" worked for you?

Share Your Experiences at www.TradeStories.org

Was your job shipped abroad to another country? Has your livelihood been affected by increased imports? Perhaps trade pacts have impacted your family or community in some other way? **If you've been personally affected by "free trade," we want to hear from you at www.TradeStories.org.**

For too long, debates over international trade have been dominated by corporate elites and economic ideologues, rather than rooted in the experiences of ordinary Americans. The Trade Stories Project allows people who have been negatively affected by policies and institutions like NAFTA and the WTO to share their views on a matter crucial to the global economy. This includes displaced workers, farmers, small business owners and immigrants who have typically been excluded from the trade debate.

A new year, new President and new Congress *should* result in a new model for trade. Unfortunately, corporate lobbyists are already working hard to make sure their views are represented in Washington. We need to work just as hard to make sure our voices are heard. By sharing your story at www.TradeStories.org, you will:

- Help document the real impacts of free trade agreements in communities across America
 - Bring issues like job loss and economic insecurity into the public spotlight
 - Show policymakers that existing trade pacts are not working for ordinary people

Pennsylvania Story



Ken Love
Pittsburgh, PA

Ken worked for General Motors for 23 years. He lost his job when GM closed its Pittsburgh plant. Taking a 60 percent pay cut, he put himself through college and became a Pastor at Kerr Presbyterian Church.

"My lifestyle changed drastically. The plant closing affected my family, community and co-workers. Even the small businesses were at a loss. For example, a small family-owned bar around the corner from the plant that depended on the workers for lunch and drinks after work slowly went downhill. Companies such as Delta Electric, Lenex brakes, and many other small part supplying Pittsburgh plants, who depended on the GM plant as a customer for their products, are being shut down."