



IBEW 2213 NEWSBEAT

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IN SOLIDARITY



SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Cory Garcia is the son of Erinn Garcia. He is one of the winners from the Western Unit. Here is his winning essay!



How The Union Has Affected My Life

Being in a family comprised of two parents in unions, it has been easy seeing the advantages of this. Going with my mother to walk in picket lines, attending rallies helped me see how many people there are backing these and wanting to fight for this right for what they believe in.

There are numerous benefits to being a part of a union, such as being given higher wages and fair treatment. Larger businesses can take advantage of the common worker without a union, but due to the fact that so many people fight to be part of a union, it has helped out so many. Insurance is certainly a plus of being a part of a union because it can help pay for things that would otherwise cripple those that don't have a union. Without it, trips to the doctor, dentist or the optometrist would be much more scarce due to how expensive these things can be. Knowing that if I happen to be injured I can sleep soundly knowing that health insurance has my back. Being able to spend weekends with my family is also a joy that many take for granted, but is something that unions help with. Unfair work hours are a thing of the past as long as you have a union on your side, so I know that I will be able to spend time with my family that I love so dearly.

Personally, I haven't had to experience what it's like to live in a home where my parents aren't in unions, but with things like the news or the internet, it makes it easy to see how much better it is to be in a union than to not be. Lower pay or unfair work hours are horrible things that some people have to go through because they don't have a union to represent them. Employers sometimes even go as far as to break the law and stop the formation of unions, which just seems crazy to me. Knowing what it's like to live in a union household helps me out in life to know that I should certainly search for a job that offers union representation, because without it, things could be so much worse off in life. Without one, I would have to worry about things like poor working conditions, or wrongful termination. I feel so much safer at home knowing that my parents will be safe at work and I don't have to worry about some of the things that are said in the news about families being treated unfairly at work.

Growing up in a union home has certainly helped in my life and made things much better, and it frightens me to think where I would be without one. Unions have helped out in my home life because it allows us to have more money to go places or get things that we may need and just be able to spend time as a family comfortably. I don't know where I would be if we didn't have union representation, but I'm glad that I don't have to worry about it.



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