

# MARCH TO STOP SWEATSHOPS



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27 • BOSTON

1:00PM March from Copley Square to Brigham Circle Stop & Shop

Join farmworkers and their allies as we call on Ahold USA (parent company of Stop & Shop and Giant) to do their part to improve wages and working conditions in the fields!



WWW.CIW-ONLINE.ORG



Florida tomato pickers labor daily in sweatshop conditions, including:



## SUB-POVERTY WAGES

Workers are paid virtually the same piece rate (an average of 50¢ per 32-lb. bucket) as they were 30 years ago. At this rate, a worker must pick over 2.25 TONS of tomatoes to earn Florida minimum wage in a typical 10-hour workday. Most workers earn less than \$12,000 per year.



## DENIAL OF FUNDAMENTAL LABOR RIGHTS

Farmworkers in Florida have no right to overtime pay, no health insurance, sick leave, paid vacation or pension, and no right to organize in order to improve these conditions.



## MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

In the most extreme situations, workers are forced to labor against their will through the use or threat of physical violence. Since 1997, there have been nine cases of forced labor prosecuted in Florida's fields, involving over 1,200 workers.

By leveraging their high-volume purchasing power, corporations like Ahold USA (parent company of Stop & Shop and Giant) play an active role in perpetuating farmworker exploitation. Today, however, change is on the horizon.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) — an internationally-recognized Florida farmworker organization — has reached groundbreaking agreements with nine of the world's leading food retailers, including McDonald's, Subway and Whole Foods. In these Fair Food agreements, corporations are paying one more penny per pound for the tomatoes they buy directly to the workers who picked them, and have established a stringent, worker-designed code of conduct in their tomato supply chains. In addition, recent historic agreements between the CIW and Florida tomato growers promise to apply the CIW's Fair Food standards to virtually the entire Florida tomato industry.

Thus, the construction of a new reality for thousands of workers is well underway. But the support of more corporations — including supermarket industry leaders — is needed to ensure the program's success. To date, Ahold USA has refused to participate.

This February 27th, farmworkers and allies will march to call on Ahold to do its part. Join us!



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