

What Difference Does a Union Make?

Here (in capsule form) are eight big advantages unions bring to a workplace:

	Union	No Union
Wages, benefits, working conditions	Protected by legal contract	At the whim of management
Wages	Spelled out in the contract	Secret. Negotiated individually by management
Raises	Bargained for everyone. All workers vote on the settlement	Favoritism can determine individual raises
Discipline	The union will defend you	Lots of luck. You're on your own
Promotions	Awarded fairly according to the negotiated agreement.	Favoritism, romance, blackmail, you name it.
Vacations, shifts, layoffs	Based on the negotiated agreement.	See above.
Problems on the job	Union will work to solve them.	Their way or the highway.
Gives people a voice in the political arena	Work for laws that protect working people and their families.	Take away or weaken all laws that protect workers, i.e., health and safety, overtime, etc.