

Fashion Economics: FM 4339  
Quiz #1: The Introduction  
Dr. Adomaitis

\_\_\_\_\_ **Nano Jikhaia** \_\_\_\_\_

Rosen, E. I. (2002). *The Globalization of the U.S. Apparel Industry: Making Sweatshops*. University of California Press.

Please answer to the best of your knowledge the following essay question. Use detail where appropriate. Remember grammar, punctuation & spelling count.

**a. How has history played a part in the globalization of textiles? Why is World War ii significant in the history of textiles? (5pts)**

History as a source of all the aspects of human society has played a considerable part in the globalization of textiles and the apparel industry. As Ellen Rosen mentioned in her book, history, and its perspectives gave us the ability to analyze and better understand the operation of markets (Rosen, 2002). There were many forces, either political, social, or economic, that occurred and led the world to globalization. Many historical events completely changed the path of the textile industry around the world. Both the pre-war and postwar periods of World War II were significantly critical in the history of textiles. After the war ended, the foreign economy in the United States saw the most tremendous benefits and economic growth. According to Ellen Rosen, America's trade policy was in an entire flourishing period, many markets got opened, and tariffs were reduced. As a result, international trade started an active dominating, meaning that the American market saw global prosperity.

**b. Why was trade policy important to the United States and to Japan? (5pts)**

For the United States, the trade policy was significantly essential to have hegemony over the world, economic prosperity, and firm competitiveness. Moreover, international trade policy guaranteed a strong import and export system that would create new economic structures.

As Ellen Rosen stated in her book, one of the reasons for rebuilding the textile industry of Japan by the American military was to restrain communism in Asia (Rosen, 2002). Trade policy agenda caused huge benefits and fast-growing volume in the Asian economy.

**c. What is Rosen's definition of a sweatshop? Why were unions created? How did the incident at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City have an impact on unions? On women? (5pts)**

For Ellen Rosen, the definition of sweatshops was far more than a low wages job. They ultimately rejected and disregarded the law whose principles transcended all human boundaries. The sweatshops did not enforce either human or federal law, and its growth made the domination of the authoritarian system perfectly visible. Rosen sharply emphasized the abnormal fact of worst working conditions for women in the workplace and its unimaginably low wages.

The fire incident at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York was one of the most horrible and deadliest industrial disasters and tragedies in the city's history. Triangle Shirtwaist Factory became a public awareness of dangerous workplaces for people and opened many eyes. This massive tragedy created strong public support for human lives. The factory disaster led to the creation of the newest reforms and had a substantial impact on unions which partially turns sweatshops into a part of history. According to Ellen Rosen, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in

New York City had a significant effect on women. As she stated in the first chapter, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union members had a chance of getting fair wages, medical insurance, and get paid vacations (Rosen, 2002).

**d. Name the Union established for Garment workers?**

The Union established for Garment workers was called the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

**e. How has the media played a part in unionization?**

Media has always been one of the primary sources of vital information globally. For example, the New York Times first published the horrible incident in El Monte, California, when Asian traffickers were forced to be stuck in the basement to sew clothing. The publishing made it clear how dangerous the existence of sweatshops was and that it was a complete violation of human and federal law, horrible disaster, and abuse.

## References

Rosen, E. I. (2002). *Making sweatshops: The Globalization of the U.S. apparel industry*.

University of California Press.