

Senate Democratic Policy Committee Hearing

“Are We Exporting American Jobs?”

Witness Biographies

LYDDA ELI GONZALES

Former Textile Worker, SETISA SA (Honduras)

Lydda Eli Gonzales is a nineteen year old textile worker who was recently terminated from her employment at the SETISA factory in the San Miguel Free Trade Zone in Honduras, where she earned as little as \$0.74 per hour. Ms. Gonzales was fired after she and fifteen co-workers attempted to organize a union to win the right to overtime pay and to improve their deplorable working conditions.

MARTHA IRIS ALBERTO

Textile Worker, AAA Factory (Honduras)

Martha Iris Alberto is a twenty-nine year old textile worker who was recently terminated from her position at the AAA factory in Honduras. Ms. Alberto, who earned \$0.75 per hour, was fired after she and forty co-workers organized a work stoppage and began to organize a union. Since being fired, Ms. Alberto’s name has been put on an electronic “blacklist” by her former employer and, as a result, she has not been able to find work in other factories.

CHARLES KERNAGHAN

National Labor Committee

Charles Kernaghan is the director of the National Labor Committee (NLC), an independent, non-profit human rights organization focused on the protection of worker rights, especially those of the young women assembling garments, shoes, toys and other products for export to the United States in Central America, the Caribbean, China and other developing countries.

Mr. Kernaghan previously taught at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and at the State University of New York’s Harry Van Arsdale Labor College in New York City. He also has worked as a photographer, furniture mover, carpenter, shop steward, and cab driver.

Mr. Kernaghan has led numerous fact-finding missions to Central America and the Caribbean to investigate working conditions in free trade zones. He and the NLC have hosted U.S. tours of workers from Honduras, El Salvador, Haiti and China. He has delivered a number of keynote speeches, written numerous research reports, and run a number of international solidarity campaigns.

Mr. Kernaghan holds a B.A. in Psychology from Loyola University in Chicago and an M.A. in Psychology from the New School for Social Research.

THEA LEE
AFL-CIO

Thea Lee is the Assistant Director for International Economics in the Public Policy Department and Chief Economist at the AFL-CIO, where she oversees research on international trade and investment policy. Previously, she worked as an international trade economist at the Economic Policy Institute in Washington and as an editor at Dollars & Sense magazine in Boston. She received a B.A. from Smith College and an M.A. in economics from the University of Michigan.

Ms. Lee is co-author of *A Field Guide to the Global Economy*. Her research projects include reports on the North American Free Trade Agreement, on the impact of international trade on U.S. wage inequality, and on the steel and textile industries. She has testified before several committees of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives on various trade topics.

MARTIN REGALIA
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Martin Regalia is vice president for economic and tax policy and chief economist of the United States Chamber of Commerce. He worked formerly as the director of research for the Savings and Community Bankers of America. Prior to that, Dr. Regalia was executive vice president, policy development, and chief economist for the National Council of Community Bankers.

Dr. Regalia also served as a principal analyst in the Fiscal Analysis Division at the Congressional Budget Office, as an economist for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in both the Banking and Capital Markets Sections, and as financial economist for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Additionally, he has been a consultant to the Thrift Institutions Advisory Council to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and was a visiting instructor in the School of Government and Business at George Washington University.

Dr. Regalia has appeared on national television news and debate programs, has testified before several congressional committees, and has authored articles and publications on a variety of economic topics. He holds a B.A. with honors in economics from the University of Santa Clara and an M.A. in economics and a Ph.D. in monetary economics from the University of Wisconsin.

JOHN MacARTHUR
Harper's Magazine

John MacArthur is president and publisher of *Harper's*, the nation's oldest continuously published monthly magazine. Since Mr. MacArthur became publisher in 1983, *Harper's* has received numerous awards. In 1993, *Harper's* won an unprecedented three National Magazine Awards, the industry's highest recognition, in the categories of fiction, feature writing, and essays and criticism. In 1997, *Harper's* won another National Magazine Award for feature writing, and most recently, in 1998, for fiction.

Mr. MacArthur's latest book is, *The Selling of "Free Trade" NAFTA, Washington, and the Subversion of American Democracy*. Before joining *Harper's*, Mr. MacArthur worked as an assistant foreign editor at UPI and as a reporter for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Bergen Record*, the *Washington Star*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. He continues to write for newspapers and magazines, including the *New York Times*, *Newsday*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. He received the 1993 Mencken Award for best editorial/op-ed column and the Illinois ACLU's 1992 Harry Kalven Freedom of Expression Award.

Mr. MacArthur graduated from Columbia College with a B.A. in history. He is a fellow at the New York Institute for the Humanities and is on the board of directors of the Author's Guild.

CHARLES McMILLION
MBG Information Services

Charles McMillion is president and chief economist of MBG Information Services, a business information and forecasting firm in Washington. He is a former Associate Director and Associate Professor in the Johns Hopkins University Policy Institute, where he researched and managed business and economic policy issues. He has also served in staff director and chief economist positions in the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and is a founder and former executive director of the bipartisan United States Congressional Economic Leadership Institute. Dr. McMillion was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ethiopia.

An economic advisor to the 1992 Clinton presidential campaign, Mr. McMillion was a featured speaker in the 1992 Little Rock Economic Summit. He frequently lectures in the United States, Europe and Asia and has testified a number of times before Congress and state legislatures.

Dr. McMillion is the author or editor of five books and over 140 scholarly and popular articles and reports. A former contributing editor of *The Harvard Business Review*, Dr. McMillion wrote a regular column on key business and financial trends. He has also written a regular monthly column on local business conditions for *The Washington Business Times*.

Dr. McMillion received his B.A. in government at the University of Texas, an M.A. at Southern Methodist University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political economy at Rutgers University.