

Although the Catholic Church historically has supported the rights of workers, as well as the labor movement as a whole, this support is not without limits. CST maintains that union members have important moral duties as well. Workers must use their collective power for the common good of society as a whole (including workers in developing nations), and not simply for their own individual good or the good of the union itself. When union members exercise their right to strike, they must do so only for "extreme" reasons, must never resort to violence, and must never abuse or subsume this right under some "external" political motivation. Finally, union managers have a responsibility to exercise proper stewardship of union recourses and to uphold the good name of the entire union movement.<sup>14</sup>

## Endnotes

1. James Wishloff, "Catholic Social Thought and Business Ethics: The Application of 10 Principles," *Review of Business* 25, number 1 (Winter 2004): 22; and Shirley Roets, "Business Goals and Processes" in *On Moral Business: Classical and Contemporary Resources for Ethics in Economic Life*, ed. Max Stackhouse et al. (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995), 912. See also Benedict XVI, *Charity in Truth*, number 21.
2. USCCB, *Economic Justice for All*, number 13.
3. Leo XIII, *On the Condition of Labor*, in O'Brien and Shannon, eds., *Catholic Social Thought*, numbers 15–17.
4. USCCB, *Economic Justice for All*, number 13.
5. Lake Lambert III, *Spirituality, Inc: Religion in the American Workplace* (New York: New York University Press, 2009), 58–59, 64.
6. Saint John Paul II, *On Human Work*, in O'Brien and Shannon, eds., *Catholic Social Thought*, number 6. See also *Economic Justice for All*, numbers 72 and 97.
7. Manuel Velasquez, *Business Ethics: Concepts and Cases*, 5th ed. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2002), 457–58. See also *Economic Justice for All*, number 73 and numbers 194–95.
8. See the AFL-CIO Web site at [www.aflcio.org/corporatetwatches/paywatch/](http://www.aflcio.org/corporatetwatches/paywatch/). We should note that this ratio is actually less than it was in 2000, due in large measure to the recession that began in 2007.
9. Median household income information is taken from the U.S. Census Bureau at [quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/0000.html](http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/0000.html).
10. Pope Benedict XVI warned that although there may be rational reasons for it, outsourcing has prompted a new form of competition among developing nations, one that threatens worker rights and undermines the viability of traditional social security systems. See Benedict XVI, *Charity in Truth*, number 25.
11. Leo XIII, *On the Condition of Labor*, in O'Brien and Shannon, eds., *Catholic Social Thought*, numbers 48, 51.
12. Saint John Paul II, *On Human Work*, in O'Brien and Shannon, eds., *Catholic Social Thought*, number 20.
13. USCCB, *Economic Justice for All*, number 104.
14. USCCB, *Economic Justice for All*, number 106. See also Benedict XVI, *Charity in Truth*, number 64.

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