



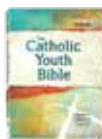
Are You Caring about What You Are Wearing?

This activity encourages students to examine how the clothing they wear can either contribute to or combat unjust labor practices.

Materials Needed:

- *The Catholic Youth Bible*®
- copies of a list of clothing companies that operate under sweatshop labor (available online from organizations like SweatFree Communities and Behind the Label), one for each student
- copies of an article that highlights a current concern in sweatshop labor, one for each student
- a sheet of newsprint
- a marker

- 1** For homework prior to this session, ask the students to examine an article of clothing from their closet. Tell the students to write down the type of clothing, the manufacturer's name, and the name of the country where it was made.
- 2** During the session, ask students to quietly read Exodus, chapter 5; the article "Modern Slave Labor" from *The Catholic Youth Bible* near Exodus 7; and the contemporary article on sweatshop labor that you made copies of before class.
- 3** In a large-group discussion, have the students name unjust practices that define sweatshop labor, citing examples from Exodus and the articles. Remind the students that even the small decisions we make, like the clothing we wear, can have an impact on the greater community.
- 4** On a sheet of newsprint, record the names of the manufacturers and the countries where the students' clothing was made. Highlight the companies and countries that tend to use sweatshop labor practices and list those organizations that oppose unfair working conditions. Have the students brainstorm ways they can personally combat the injustice of sweatshop labor.



This activity is taken from Catholic Social Teaching Activities, which is part of the online resources for The Catholic Youth Bible®, fourth edition.

