

8160:3/87

HISTORIC AMERICAN BAPTIST RESOLUTION ON INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY

Whereas, we see, as a result of modern industrial revolution, tendencies at work which produce an autocratic control of industry, which make wealth the end and human life the means, which divide people into opposing groups and depersonalize the relations between them, thereby creating conditions threatening social disintegration.

Resolved, That we affirm the sacredness of human beings and demand that the industrial system in its processes, motives, and results be brought to the test of its contribution to human life and spiritual values.

Resolved, That we affirm our conviction that all parties in industry - investors, managers, workers, and the community - are partners, and that this calls for the creation of a constitution or charter for each industry defining the terms and conditions of labor, providing for redress of grievances on the basis of social justice, and insuring a progressive participation by all parties in knowledge of the enterprise, a voice in its direction, and an equitable sharing in the proceeds.

Adopted by Northern Baptist Convention - 1919
Affirmed by the Executive Committee of the General Board - March 1987
(General Board Reference # - 8160:3/87)

POLICY BASE

American Baptist Policy Statement on Human Rights - December 1976

As American Baptists we declare the following rights to be basic human rights, and we will support programs and measures to assure these rights:

6. The right to follow the dictates of conscience, to express dissent individually or in groups to prevailing ideas, governments and institutions;

8. The right to develop skills and abilities, to utilize these in economic, political, social, intellectual and religious institutions, and to receive a just return for one's labor;

12. The right to organize into groups to bargain with structures or powerful persons, to seek redress of grievances or to promote particular concerns;

14. The right to a just process for the redress of a violation of a person's or group's human rights.
