

Dirty Trick #9

Union Promises

The company will tell you that the union will promise to get you whatever you want.

They will claim that the union cannot guarantee you any better benefits, wages, or working conditions.

They will also claim that you could get more, you could get the same, or you could get less by joining the union.



The IBEW

TRUTH

The goals and priorities of what is negotiated into your contract depend upon you and your coworkers.

You will decide by a majority vote what is in your contract. However, a quick look at the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics clearly shows the advantages of being a member of a union.

Statistical data from the U.S. Department of Labor indicates that union workers make on average 29% more than non-union workers.*

In Canada, the Canadian Labour Congress reports that union workers make on average 19.3% more than non-union workers.

Union Advantage Chart

	Non-Union	Union
U.S. Median Weekly Earnings	\$729	\$ 938
Canada Median Weekly Earnings	\$856	\$1,060

* Reference: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Union Members in 2011," January 2012, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/union2.pdf> (accessed June 18, 2012), and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employee Benefits in United States," March 2011, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/ebs2.pdf> (accessed June 18, 2012).