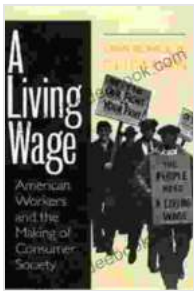


American Workers and the Making of Consumer Society

The United States has long been a consumer society, with Americans spending more money on goods and services than people in most other countries. This consumerism has been fueled by a number of factors, including the country's high wages, its large middle class, and its easy access to credit.



A Living Wage: American Workers and the Making of Consumer Society by Lawrence B. Glickman

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 4691 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 240 pages



American workers have played a key role in the development of consumer society. In the early 20th century, as the United States began to industrialize, workers were increasingly able to afford to buy goods that had previously been out of their reach. This increased demand for goods led to the development of new industries and the expansion of existing ones.

In the post-World War II era, the United States experienced a period of rapid economic growth. This growth was fueled by the baby boom, which

led to a surge in the number of working-age Americans. The increased demand for labor led to higher wages for workers, which in turn led to even greater consumer spending.

The availability of credit also played a major role in the development of consumer society. In the early 20th century, banks began to offer installment loans to consumers, which allowed them to buy expensive goods without having to pay for them all at once. This made it possible for more and more Americans to afford to buy things like cars, appliances, and furniture.

The development of consumer society has had a profound impact on American culture. It has led to a greater emphasis on material possessions and a decreased emphasis on traditional values such as thrift and hard work. It has also contributed to the rise of environmental problems, as the production and consumption of goods has led to increased pollution and resource depletion.

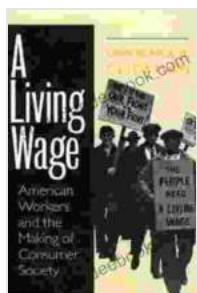
Despite the negative consequences of consumer society, it is clear that Americans are not likely to give up their love of shopping anytime soon. The United States is still a consumer society, and American workers continue to play a key role in driving consumer spending.

The Future of Consumer Society

The future of consumer society is uncertain. Some experts believe that the United States is reaching a point of "peak stuff," where people are no longer interested in buying more and more things. Others believe that consumer spending will continue to grow, but that it will be increasingly focused on experiences rather than material goods.

It is also possible that consumer society will be transformed by new technologies. The rise of the internet has already made it easier for people to buy goods and services, and it is likely that this trend will continue. In the future, we may see even more people shopping online and using mobile devices to make purchases.

Whatever the future holds, it is clear that American workers will continue to play a key role in consumer society. Whether they are producing goods, selling goods, or providing services, American workers are essential to the functioning of the consumer economy.



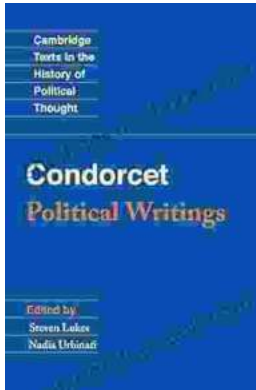
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