

Title	Economic and Social Security and Substandard Working Conditions
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Brief Introduction	<p>The central claim made by Vernon Mogensen, the editor of <i>Worker Safety under Siege</i>, as well as by most of the volume's contributors, is that deregulation is destroying workplace safety and health. Among the forces and conditions abetting this trend are political and corporate opposition to new regulation, poor enforcement of existing laws and regulations, weakened worker participation in health and safety, and aspects of globalization that have impeded uniform regulation of workplace conditions across national borders. The volume makes a strong case for this general argument. Some of the high points, for me, are the authors' discussions of a societal double standard that devalues the importance of workplace death, the almost unassailable strength of corporate power within the current political setting, and the particularly high risks faced by immigrant workers. A recurring <i>positive</i> theme is that workplaces are safer when strong regulations go together with worker participation in an employer's health and safety program, particularly in workplaces with strong and active unions.</p>