Cause and Effect Essay: Workforce

For years now newer generations have been schooled, advised by parental figures, and advised by peers towards the idea of joining the workforce as an employee, rather than an employer. The concept of the workforce has created a lopsided imbalance of the labor pool in the United States by continuously reducing the amount of self-employed and small business owners ( BLShipple ). Overall, this focus has shifted economic growth to corporations, decreasing the effectiveness of capitalism in favor of a method more in line with corporatism.

The concept of the workforce as we know it today describes the collective group of employees or laborers within an organization or industry and has been prominent since the 20th century and the beginnings of the industrial revolution. The term however has only been used as recently as 1947 ( Dict ). The workforce was brought to the public after the ramping production efforts of the U.S during the events of the Second World War and has pushed the American public to continue this ideal. As a result, this ideal has had a devastating impact on the US’ original economic founding.

The effect on individual’s occupational freedom has been increasingly negative as the years after the focus on the US workforce continues. Americans are increasingly reliant on other larger organizations, even if the person in question is technically self-employed. Some require Amazon to distribute their goods, YouTube monetization and audience for revenue, Google to make others aware of their product or service, etc.

The effect on communal support has been positive ( Local ). Americans have regained a sense of community in recent years, preferring to purchase goods and procure services that are sourced locally. This has created a pushback against nationally based brands, as well as a pushback against non-domestic brands. As The Business Journal confirmed, “For every $100 spent at small businesses, $48 is put back into the local economy…” certain communities have permitted vertical economic movement through this resurging practice ( Local ).

The effect on the average citizen’s spending habits has had a mixed set of results from the overrepresentation of employment favoring corporations. Over twenty seven percent of Millennials shop from online retailers such as eBay, Amazon, and Walmart, a trend that grows the national workforce over local economies ( Ana ). Consumers are increasingly interacting with brand owned accounts, with forty three percent following a brand or company on social media and twenty percent following an ambassador that is declared as a brand ambassador ( Stats ).

Some additional effects to take note of are as follows; The IRS’ Self-Employment tax of 1954 was implemented to assist in the payment of Social Security and Medicare ( Tax ). This has placed an unnecessary burden on individuals and small businesses, thus causing an increase in difficulty for those who seek sustainment outside of the identified workforce. Schools in the US have either obligatory classes, or portions of the standard curriculum, dedicated to learning about how to better improve oneself for employment within the current workforce. For those that wish to learn about how to become one of the employers, they must seek extracurricular courses, thus reinforcing the standard education’s preference to form workers. Finally, the power of the average corporation has ballooned vastly to have an overinvolvement in the country’s politics and economics. This has caused certain assurances of power that are increasingly difficult to change from a bottom-up approach where most Americans are currently.

In conclusion, the concept of the workforce has had an overall negative impact on the behaviors, aspirations, and economic availability of individuals today. I predict, however, that this trend is a failing one built up and sustained by a prior generation who are becoming increasingly irrelevant as the economies and peoples of the world progress ever forward. As was put so eloquently in regard to the ideals of capitalism by Ayn Rand, “Government ‘help’ to business is just as disastrous as government persecution… the only way a government can be of service to national prosperity is by keeping its hands off” ( p.131, Capital ) where she is sub-textually commending the capitalistic approach to economics through entrepreneurship with little intervention from forces outside the market. I believe this approach is the closest to the individualistic nature of not only people amongst every nation, but the order of the living world as a whole, where everyone and everything seeks to attain what they perceive as the best for themselves and to curtail this will inevitably fail.

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