

## Process Paper

How did we choose our topic?

We all had a mutual interest in the fight for rights in American history and an often overlooked part of history was these poor immigrant women that had an enormous impact on gender equality and the rights of workers. We decided on the topic of the Uprising of 20,00 because it was the perfect example of how these seemingly insignificant female workers were able to create such a change that still affects the workforce today.

How did we conduct our research?

Before diving straight into research blindly, we contacted Christopher Zarr with some questions on our topic in hopes of receiving some resources that could help us get started. We focused our efforts on getting primary sources because our topic focuses on the experiences of factory workers and we were able to find diary entries and an audio recording of an interview with an actual worker who worked in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory and struck. We watched two documentaries that gave us a general overview of our topic, a template from which we were able to narrow down our research and begin focusing on more specific things in-depth. We reached out to Dr. Annie Polland, the executive director of the American Jewish Historical Society, because many of the workers were Jewish. She was able to answer our questions and recommend two books, which aided in our analysis.

Why did we choose our category and how did we create the project?

In today's digital age, everyone has access to the internet. As a result, we decided to create a website, which is an extremely efficient and accessible way of sharing information. We first separated our research into different sections that would later become individual pages and divided up the sections between us to be more efficient. After gathering all of our research, we began to piece together our analysis. We then sent our pages to Sofiane Larbi, who coded our entire website.

How does our topic relate to the theme?

The Uprising of 20,000 relates to the theme of Breaking Barriers because these women were actively protesting against the conditions of their workplace and how they were treated. They broke societal barriers by simply being immigrant women who refused to be complacent with the abuse. They broke economic barriers and legal barriers by demanding more rights, the

formation of a union, less hours and more pay. The women of the Uprising of 20,000 set forward a movement and created a legacy of worker's rights and gender equality.