

WHWG Writer: Podhoretz
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ETS SPEECH: BUSINESS CONSEQUENCES

Thank you, (introducer).

I want to talk to you today about a subject that concerns all of us -- how to run successful businesses and how to keep our country economically strong.

I think we can all agree that the key to a well-run business is a happy and peaceful workplace. But lately it seems more and more difficult to make that happen. Employees live in fear of layoffs and economic uncertainty. Employers live in fear of junk lawsuits in which they are accused of sexual abuse, racism, discrimination, you name it. Over time, all this tension has taken its toll. It seems almost impossible for employees and bosses, workers and owners, to have pleasant professional relationships. We're all on our guard, and it's exhausting.

As we face unprecedented challenges to our standing as the world's foremost economic superpower, I think we are distracting ourselves from our real national mission -- to keep America Number One. Instead, we sue each other, we fear each other, and we turn our workplaces into battlegrounds instead of what they should be: real places of work where people collaborate to make things and provide services to others who want and need them.