

You shall not abuse a needy and destitute laborer, whether a fellow Israelite or a stranger in one of the communities of your land. You must pay out the wages due on the same day, before the sun sets, for the worker is needy and urgently depends on it; else a cry to the Eternal will be issued against you and you will incur guilt.
Deuteronomy 24:14-15

How I wish we lived in a time when laws were not necessary to safeguard us from discrimination. *Barbra Streisand*

“The so-called wage gap is mostly, and perhaps entirely, an artifact of the different choices men and women make—different fields of study, different professions, different balances between home and work. Wage-gap activists argue that even when we control for relevant variables, women still earn less.” *Christina Hoff Sommers*

God created the human beings in the divine image, creating them in the image of God, creating them, male and female.
Genesis 1:27

Woe to the one who builds a house by unrighteousness, and chambers by injustice; who uses a neighbor's service without wages, and does not give the workers their wages; who said "I will build a wide house and large chambers; and cut out windows; and it is covered with rafters of cedar and painted with vermilion. Shall you reign, because you compete in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink and do judgement and justice, and then it was well with him? Your father judged the cause of the poor and needy, and it was well with him. Was not this to know Me? says Adonai. *Jeremiah 22:13-16*

“To be successful, a woman has to be much better at her job than a man.” *Golda Meir*

A society and a family are like a pile of stones. If you remove one stone, the pile will collapse. If you add a stone to it, it will stand. *Genesis Rabbah*

Equal pay isn't just a women's issue; when women get equal pay, their family incomes rise and the whole family benefits. *Mike Honda, CA-17*

The Lord spoke to Moses saying: Speak to the Israelite people and say to them: When a man explicitly vows to the Lord the equivalent for a human being, the following scale shall apply: If it is a male from 20 to 60 years of age, the equivalent is fifty shekels of silver... if it is a female, the equivalent is thirty shekels. *Leviticus 27:1-4*

“The ongoing lack of pay equity offends people who believe in the fundamental equality between men and women and the dignity of work and fair compensation. We are taught in Leviticus (19:13), “You shall not defraud your neighbor” and in Deuteronomy (24:14-15) "You shall not abuse a needy and destitute laborer," but you must “pay him his wages on the same day, for he is needy and urgently depends on it." Those biblical lessons continue to inspire us to act to end this offensive and persistent disparity in pay.”

Barbara Weinstein, Associate Director, Religious Action Center

You shall not defraud your fellow Israelite. You shall not commit robbery. The wages of the laborer shall not remain with you all night until the morning. *Leviticus 19:13*

One who withholds an employee's wages is as though he deprived him of his life. *Baba Metzia 112a*

Reform Values at Work



"Fifty years ago today, President John F. Kennedy

signed into law the Equal Pay Act, which requires equal pay for equal work.

However, fifty years later the pay gap still exists. Women today earn only 77 cents for every dollar men make, a yearly gap of \$11,084 between working men and women. Women of color earn even less.

"Equal pay is not just a woman's issue; it's a family issue. Families increasingly rely on women's wages for their everyday needs, but if women bring home less money each day that means \$11,000 less every year for groceries, child care, rent, and doctors' visits. *Jan Schakowsky, IL-9 On the 50th Anniversary of the Equal Pay Act: June 10, 2013*