

CHILDREN WRITE TO WAL-MART CEO LEE SCOTT

“I am a girl and when I grow up I want to be paid the SAME amount as any men I work with. Equal pay for equal work....Mr. Scott, Wal-Mart can do better, you can afford to do better and lastly America deserves better.” Mackenzie, age 14, California

“You alone, Mr. Lee Scott, landed nearly \$23 million in total compensation last year. So why can't Wal-Mart fix these problems?” Mary Beth, age 12, Illinois

“You're not treating people fairly or paying them fairly or treating people equally. You should investigate the places where your clothes are made so that children don't have to work and workers can use the bathroom whenever they want to. I'm not going to shop at Wal-Mart again until you're nice to people.” Jacob, age 8, Pennsylvania

“My parents used to buy faithfully from your stores, but not anymore. I cannot believe that you pay your female workers less than your males. You have pushed it breaking child labor laws. I can't believe you!!” Advocate, Kentucky

“I am NOT going to buy my school supplies at Wal-Mart because YOU do NOT pay YOUR workers enough to take care of their families. I'm MAD at YOU because YOU break child labor laws.” Isabel, age 8, Virginia

“I am 7 years old. I have told my parents not to buy my school supplies from Wal-Mart. You have been very mean and cruel to the poor. You are not very nice to your workers. I think that you need to be put in time out.” Tristan, age 7, Texas

“I am 'boy-cutting' your store because you make children work without getting paid fairly.” Anthony, age 11

“My mom told me that Wal-Mart does not treat the workers nice. You make kids work too long and you don't give families health insurance so they can not go to the doctor. That is not nice.” Melissa, age 8

“I am not buying my school supplies at Wal-Mart because you are mean to your employees.” Jessie, Minnesota

“I have been reading and heard from lots of people that you get your stuff very cheap from very poor countries. I know that kids my age are working and being treated very poorly. Even though I am just a kid, my words matter, too. Just because you are an adult does not mean that you can tell us that what we say doesn't matter. My mom, me and my family will never walk into Wal-Mart again.” Seana, age 12, Michigan

“You really must change these things that are going on. They are unfair, cruel and contradict our American values. Make the difference now, Mr. Scott, before it turns bad.” Avi, age 12, Pennsylvania

“I am 15 years old and I have never shopped at a Wal-Mart store....My money would just go into your pocket and it wouldn't really help anyone in the poor countries where you buy your products.” Maria Luisa, age 15, California

“I want to tell you why my mom and I will not be buying school supplies or anything else from your Wal-Mart stores. We have a brand new Wal-Mart less than one mile from our house, but we will go further to avoid your store....Your company takes advantage of poor people so someone like you can earn \$23 million last year. That is probably more than all your employees in Africa and China combined earned. I know that I am only one small child, but I hope that my friends and know that my relatives will join me in this effort to change your ways.” Coe, age 6, New Jersey

“You say you are patriotic, but most of your products are made by young people in other countries who work in horrible conditions. Wal-Mart makes huge profits and can afford to do better.” Jack, South Carolina

“Why should a kid get school supplies from a store that has had huge fines for child labor violations—kids my age working through school and very late with no bathroom breaks, operating dangerous equipment such as chainsaws and trash compactors.” Kelsy, ninth-grade, Colorado