

# Rights for Undocumented Immigrant Workers?

## Ask Carmen

CARMEN CAME TO THE UNITED STATES at the age of 7 and at 10 she began working in the fields during the summer. The rest of the year she worked weekends in restaurants—11-hour days for less than \$2.70 an hour. She washed dishes, cleaned bathrooms, mopped floors, prepared food and faced harassment from management. When she came home, her hands were cut and burned from the work.

Now 17, Carmen wants to leave the fields and has tried to get jobs in department stores, like her friends from high school. But she doesn't have the proper work authorization.

Carmen's father works in construction. Recently he worked for two months but was not paid because the contractor, who had promised to help him gain legal status, knows he is undocumented and would have trouble collecting his wages.

Nothing about Carmen's story is rare. Across America, tens of thousands of hard-working, tax-paying undocumented immigrants are exploited at work by employers who prey on their fear of deportation.

### **TELL CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT BUSH:**

**Hard-working, tax-paying immigrants deserve fairness  
and the opportunity for legal status.**

**Call your members of Congress today at 202-224-3121.  
Call President Bush today at 202-456-1414.**

