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Coursez; World History WCII

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This week's written assignment is based on Sadler's report that took place before a committee from 1831-1832. These interviews took place in front of a committee to argue over the unfair labor conditions these former factory workers had to endure at a very young age, under 12yrs. In this report we read that only 5 individuals testified to the committee about the unfair work conditions, physical abuse and unfair wages received to No wages received as a punishment for tardiness.

Interviewees Joshua Drake, Matthew Crabtree, Peter Smart all testified that they all were severely beaten because they were late for work. But Elizabeth Bently didn't get beat for tardiness, she wasn't late but she does testify that she has seen the boys get beaten for tardiness. All testified that they were bound to the owners of that factory for a certain period of time. They all experience 12-19 hour daily work shifts in which their work day would start at 5-6am and end at 7pm-9pm. It was Peter Smart that testified that there were times that they had work until Saturday noon which was their Sabbath day. Breaks were barely taken because they couldn't eat in the conditions in the factory and they were all dirty from operating these machines and handling the products as testified by all former factory workers.

Joshua Drakes is a parent who had his whole family work in the factory. At times the children would receive partial to no wages due to lateness. He believed that if there was a law that would cut labor hours to eighth hours daily it would relieve the pressure from other workers and the company can hire more workers to help divide the workload. Joshua is an example that you have to utilize all household family members to help support the family living expenses. Depending

on the families living conditions during that period there was no child labour laws put in place, no minimum wage rates that factory owners must abide to, no limit to what time work hours for individuals especially children and women, no laws about lunch and dinner breaks and also no rules to what type of punishment or corrective action that should be taken place when on is late to work or can't meet the daily production quotas during the shifts.

I think the Sadler's report was just one of the examples that labour laws were put in place due to the evidence that was presented about the unfair conditions in the workplace, physical abuse and unfair wages that were done to these individuals.