

The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire



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Who?

- The Triangle shirtwaist factory was owned by Max Blanck and Isaac Harris.
- The factory owners employed young immigrant women who did not speak English.

What?

- The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire was a deadly fire that affected many. It claimed the lives of 164 young workers. Shocking others across the nation.
- It pushed to new fire safety in workplaces.
- It convinced people to hold the government accountable for the safety of workers in workplaces.

Where?

- The factory was named the Triangle Shirtwaist Company, which was located in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan, New York City.

When?

- On March 25, 1911 the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire happened.
- At the time of the fire, many workplaces had little to no fire safety. Back then it wasn't as much of a priority to have that kind of safety.

Why?

- High levels of corruption in the garment industry and city government ensured that there would be no useful precautions taken to prevent fires.
- Due to a rotted hose and a rusted valve, the fire in the rag bin could not be extinguished.
- The elevator in which the workers attempted to take in order to escape the flames, could only hold 12 people at a time and lasted four trips before it broke down.
- The fire escapes and the exit doors were locked by the owners, leaving the workers no choice but to jump to their deaths

How?

- It was claimed by the court that the fire was started by a discarded cigarette in the scrap fabric bin.
- There was no prevention for fires in the workplace except for buckets of water that were said to be empty at the time of the fire.
- The owners did not have appropriate safety precautions in the factory.