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Special Populations

Women in blue collar and related occupations at the end of the millennium

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Abstract

Electricians, truck drivers, fire fighters, and sewing machine operators are some of today's blue collar workers. Despite the steady decline in manufacturing, labor force projections suggest that blue collar work will continue to be an important source of employment for women as well as men. Equal opportunity, however, has eluded women in these occupations. Higher paying, more skilled jobs are held by men, while women remain concentrated in less skilled, lower paying jobs. Problems are identified and solutions suggested for integrating women into the nontraditional jobs, as well as for improving the wages and working conditions in traditional jobs.



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Keywords

Blue collar; Enforcement; Sex segregation; Traditional; Nontraditional; Unions; Wages

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