

Re: Oh my Gawd! Carly!

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- *From:* mzenier@xxxxxxxxxx (Mark Zenier)
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In article <3010f9f5-bb58-46e0-bcb3-a1d4b0fbbc00@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, MooseFET <kensmith@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Apr 25, 10:47 am, Jim Thompson
[...]

It seems, around here, that employees are hard to come by. I see signs, even billboards, for burger flippers at way over minimum wage.

There is no shortage of low wage and dead end jobs. You can't offshore burger flipping and floor sweeping. Free trade allows manufacturing and the like to be moved to where the labor is the cheapest. Modern communications allow jobs that deal in information to also go off shore. The result is that for a while we will have a race to the bottom.

Heard a recent program (BBC Global Business with Peter Day, I think) about doing business in Cambodia. The wages there for a sewing machine operator are US\$0.23 an hour. \$600 a person-year destroys the option of the advanced countries competing with more productive automation.

We can't build robots cheap enough to compete. And they can't earn enough money for a real life (and economic development). So doing a "Henry Ford" and raising the wages would develop the third world and allow the first world to compete with its technological advantage.

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