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Although the Industrial Revolution brought technological advancements and large amounts of produce, humans went through grotesque living and working conditions.

During the Industrial Revolution the living conditions were disgusting and horrible for every single lower class family. In the documents, Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor, it stated, “In some instance, girls were found living in a small attic rooms, lighted and ventilated only by a skylight; the furnishing generally consisted of a single bed, bureau and chair with no wardrobe, except one curtain in the corner.” After working a very long and exhausting day, you want to go home to get a break and to relax. These people would go to their homes and it would be just as depressing as their work. The moms in the families would work all day then go home to work even more. Taking care of their kids, washing their clothes, making them food, and having to clean their home.

It wasn’t just the United States going through this grey and dull time. The rest of the world was going through it as well. “In 1903, Lemlich and her family joined the flood of roughly two million Eastern European Jewish immigrants that entered the United States between 1881 and the end of World War I.” These families needed jobs and kids wanted education. As two million immigrants entered to U.S, they would be stealing jobs, homes, and food from the people who already lived in the U.S. A lot of those two millions immigrants moved to New York. It wasn’t all sunshine and rainbows in New York either. There were gangsters and crime happening around every corner that the Jews weren’t used to. Then the U.S hit the Great Depression. “The heat soaked the stone and iron of the city by day and leaked out by night.” Not only were people’s homes miserable, but the streets were just as bad.

Working conditions were harsh, absurd and people used children as cheap labor. In John Spargo’s book he stated, “The coal is hard and accidents to the hands, such as cut, broken, or crushed fingers, are common among the boys.” Young kids are supposed to be having fun and going on adventures in their little minds. During that time, they had to grow up and grow up fast. They had to go to work and provide for their families. Working half days and being abused, children had no time to think about themselves or think about their future. Working environments keep their ideas buried in the dirt. For all they know, they world being working their entire lives.

This concludes that we have it good. Back then, there was no such thing as a beautiful day. Today I could walk outside and see the green trees and blue sky. I could go home and have privacy and have a comfortable place to sleep.