Twitter Thread by Bashir Mohamed



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Overheard somebody complain about the $15 minimum wage by saying that it'll spoil kids since most of them work "easy" jobs like delivering pizza.

But when was the last time you had a kid deliver your pizza?

Or your uber eats/skip the dishes.

Predominately, these workers are older people who are supporting their family - more often than not coming from an immigrant background.

It's ignorant to think that fields like this are dominated by well off kids.

It takes an incredible amount of privilege for people to assume that these jobs are a momentary right of passage.

Both my parents, university educated, worked minimum wage jobs when we first came to Canada. They worked hard so I could be where I am today.

These are honorable jobs and, once again, I wouldn't be here if my mom didn't work double shifts cleaning. Or if my dad didn't work as a cashier and at a meat packing plant.

It was backbreaking work and a $15 minimum wage would have made life more bearable for them.

My dad passed away after working an extra overnight shift at home depot.

I was asleep and woke up to my sister telling me something was wrong. He had an heart attack.

I have a feeling that a more bearable work schedule would have prevented him from dying.

Of course this meant that my mom had to work way harder to support the four of us.

I wouldn't see her for days. She'd wake up at 5 am and work until 11 PM or midnight just for a double shift and the extra pay.

I'm surprised that this didn't kill her too. It's tragic.

A $15 minimum wage back then wouldn't have solved our problems but it would have made life a little easier.

It would have allowed her to spend more time with her family and reduced a lot of stress.

This is why the $15 minimum wage matters. I hope others see this perspective.