

*Unity Council Presents...*

# **SPENT: A Minimum Wage Simulation**

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[www.playspent.org](http://www.playspent.org)



# Norms of Online Forums

1. Don't be afraid to be raggedy! You don't need to have perfect phrasing.
2. Be sensitive to the experiences of others.
3. Speak from the "I" perspective.
4. What happens on this chat stays in this chat.
5. Do not record or take screenshots of the video chat.
6. To speak or respond to a question, please type "hand" in the chat box. We will go in the order of submissions.

Reminder: Norms of classrooms still apply here (<https://bit.ly/2xhEQIq>). Please be respectful.



1

**Initial Reactions?**

A large, bold white number '2' is centered on a blue and white striped background. The stripes are diagonal and run from the top-left to the bottom-right. The background is a rounded, irregular shape that tapers towards the right.

2

**Talk about your  
gameplay strategy.**

A large, white, stylized number '3' is centered on a blue and white striped background. The stripes are diagonal and run from the top-left to the bottom-right. The background is a rounded, irregular shape that tapers towards the right.

3

**What did you learn  
from this?**

- 39.9 million families live in poverty in America.
- 79.9 million workers are paid an hourly wage.
- Among those paid by the hour, 701,000 earn exactly minimum wage and 1.5 million had wages below.
- 1 in 6 children lives in poverty
- 25.4% of Native Americans, 20.8% of African Americans, and 17.6% of Hispanic Americans live in poverty.

# Why is this relevant today?

In the past 3 weeks, over 16 million Americans have filed for unemployment as a result of Covid-19, 60% of whom are women.

Many undocumented workers have lost their jobs and are unable to apply for federal aid, leaving them especially vulnerable.

27 states exclude full-time students from unemployment insurance, and policies disproportionately exclude POC, part-time workers, caregivers, low-wage workers, women, and young workers.

In this time of uncertainty, it's important that everyone helps if they can and reaches out for help if they need it.

