

Teacher Professional Development Programs with Edward T. O'Donnell, Ph.D.

Rage and Reform: The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire

On March 25, 1911, the Triangle Shirtwaist garment factory burst into flames. In little more than 30 minutes, 146 young women, most of them Jewish and Italian immigrants, perished. The tragedy elicited outrage across the country as details of the factory owners' negligence became public. With public sympathy for the labor movement heightened, reformers passed dozens of labor reform laws. Over time, the fire achieved iconic status as a vivid symbol of labor exploitation.

Walking Tour Option: Lower East Side and labor history sites

This presentation, augmented with more than 75 visuals, examines the following:

- the labor movement circa 1911
- the lives of immigrant women workers
- the details of the fire and what led to such a high death toll
- the public response to the fire and subsequent passage of labor laws

About the Presentation:

Today's students are visual and interactive learners – and so are their teachers. Consequently, this multimedia presentation is built around 75-100 unique and carefully selected visuals, including vintage photographs, etchings, maps, cartoons, and documents (samples appear on this page). O'Donnell uses them to enhance a lively and interactive presentation. Ample time is allotted for Q & A, but O'Donnell always welcomes questions at any time during the session.

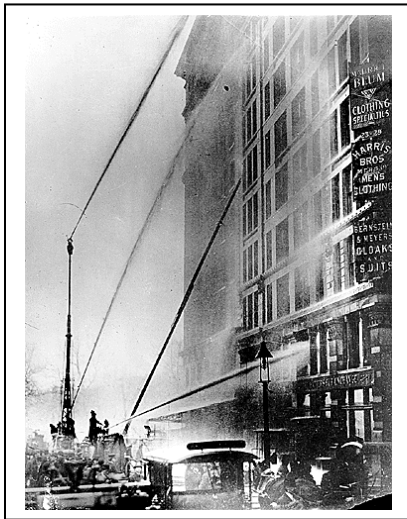


Benefits for your teachers:

- a renewed and/or deepened awareness of topic's **essential content**.
- an enhanced understanding of the topic's **critical questions, concepts, and ideas**.
- new ideas for finding and using **primary sources** and developing DBQ's, simulations, projects, debates, and field trip preparation.

Programming Options:

- Time Flexibility – all presentations and workshops can be tailored to meet your needs, from 1 to 3 hours.
- Pedagogy Workshops – O'Donnell is also available to lead workshops on primary sources, DBQ's, simulations, projects, and debates.
- Walking Tours & Historic Site Visits - O'Donnell has led thousands – just ask!



Edward T. O'Donnell, Ph.D. is a professional historian, author, and speaker. He earned his Ph.D. in American History from Columbia University (1995) and currently is Associate Professor (tenured) of History at Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA. He is the author of several books and frequently publishes history essays in publications such as the *New York Times*. He has made countless teacher professional development presentations and served as lead historian for the Teaching American History grant, "Enlivening American History Through Primary Sources" (2001, Queens College). For a full c.v., please visit his website: www.EdwardTODonnell.com.



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