

December 10, 2012

To the Editor:

The Times' reports about the garment factory fires in Pakistan (September 13 and December 8, 2012) and in Bangladesh (December 6 and December 7, 2012) compares these recent tragedies to the Triangle shirtwaist factory fire of 1911 in New York City. In its Editorial on December 9, 2012 the Times calls for comprehensive changes in worker safety standards in the developing countries that have become the world's suppliers of manufactured garments. The Times' comprehensive reporting and endorsement of the PVH plan for an independent, enforceable, and professional inspection system is a step in the right direction. As in 1911, media attention is crucial to rallying public opinion to press regulations on businesses. The Remember the Triangle Fire Coalition has proposed constructing a destination memorial at the site of the Triangle fire to remind us of our history, now echoed elsewhere in the world. Keeping workers safe wherever they work is worth remembering.

Joel Sosinsky