

. National AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Richard Trumka Talks to Union Activists About Race



Secretary Treasurer Trumka at IBEW Local 459 in Johnstown discusses race with union activists. [CLICK HERE](#) to view a selection from his speech on Obama and race from the Ohio AFL-CIO Convention.

National AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Richard Trumka was in Pennsylvania last week to talk to union activists about the issue of race in this year's election. "This election is about the economy and there is one candidate who wants to keep things the way things are. And then there is the one candidate who has dedicated his entire career to helping working families. There really isn't a choice here for working families. Barack Obama is our candidate. As I've said before, there are a thousand good reasons to vote for Obama and only one very bad reason not to vote for him: because he isn't white. I'm hearing from a lot of local officers that there is a struggle this year with some members being uncomfortable with Obama's race and so I think it is

important that we talk about it. We need our members to ask themselves if their racism is worth sacrificing their jobs, healthcare, social security, wages, pensions plans, and the future financial security of their family. Barack Obama stands with working families and John McCain clearly does not. We need to elect Obama in November and I need all union members to do everything they can this year to make sure that happens." To view a selection from Secretary Treasurer Trumka's powerful speech on Obama and race from the Ohio AFL-CIO convention earlier this month [CLICK HERE.](#)