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THE LANTERN BOOKS BLOG: MOCK MEAT AND SWEATSHOP CLOTHING

by [Kara Davis](#) April 11, 2007 4:05pm

Is there a guide out there that illustrates how easy sweatshop free living can be? I see the plethora of [how-to vegan guides](#), and I want some hand holding to assist me in taking the leap to 100% sweatshop free. I've been asking everyone I know if a guide exists, and so far, nothing satisfactory.

My online forays have brought places to shop. [American Apparel](#) has all of its sign-your-defense-against-sexual-harassment-rights-away problems, and other sweat-free outlets, though nice, are few and far between. (It was a happy accident to stumble across places like [Justice Clothing](#) as denim alternatives to the grotesquely popular [Prison Blues](#).) These sources are the mock meats of sweatshop free living. But really, I'd like the focus not to be on consuming more and more. Is there a [backyard garden](#) of sweatshop free? Is there a [C.S.A.](#) of sweatshop free?

I shop at thrift stores, but they are increasingly filled with castoffs from Old Navy. I participate in [Freecycle](#), but that hasn't really been about garments. I sew some, but can make only play clothes from scratch. I occasionally buy something from a craft or artisan fair, but can't afford to shop at designer boutiques. My best answer so far is the good old clothing swap. With a new twist.

Some smarties in recycled pants have put together the [Swap-O-Rama-Rama](#), which combines a huge clothing swap with DIY workshops (sewing machines and fabric printing on site!) and a fashion show. The next NYC event is happening on Earth Day (April 22), and I'll be there.

But if you know of one, I am still looking for that guide.



Will I get a personal stylist?

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