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"We could illustrate the minimum wage with cash. Or maybe deal with the political stuff."

"Better yet, let's find working Americans on the front lines of the debate and let them speak."

"How about channeling Gillian Wearing?"

"Yes! The artwork with the crazy name?" (Signs That Say What You Want Them to Say and Not Signs That Say What Someone Else Wants You to Say)

"Let's ask our subjects three questions and give them a marker to write their answers on a card."

Here's Jody Sullivan, from Upstate New York. She works as a cashier at a discount store.

> "What is your biggest financial fear?'



"What do you think you should earn?"



"What do you do?"



We chose six people and produced six different covers. You can see them all at businessweek.com/minimumwage. We would like to thank all those who shared their stories with us.