

# Woman Turns Dumpster Diving into the American Dream

*Tanya Ortiz was a happy housewife until her marriage crumbled. She started dumpster diving out of desperation. Now inspires people to create their own economy.*

BALTIMORE, UNITED STATES, June 27, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- One man's trash is another man's treasure, is true, however knowing what to do with it is one woman's truth. [Tanya Ortiz](#) of Maryland turned to trash out of necessity and is now teaching others how to create their own economy.

It was just two short years ago when her life took an unexpected turn. She was living comfortably as an upper middle class, suburban housewife when her 10 year marriage collapsed. She went from being a happy housewife, to being single, depressed and unemployed with no work experience for 10 years, a \$2,000 per month mortgage and an emptied bank account, overnight.

Ortiz became angry at the world and contemplated why she even existed. She was hungry and on the verge of losing everything. She hid her troubles from everyone, including her family. She remembered, "A friend invited me over and offered me a taste of a new crab cake recipe. I thought, what am I going to do with a bite of a crab cake? I needed a meal."

Everywhere she turned, the doors were slammed in her face. Every job she applied for was complete with a 'don't call us, we'll call you'. She was so desperate for food that desperate action was called for. While driving around one day there was a glint from the sun shining off the ring on her left hand. She took her \$5,000 wedding ring to the pawn shop and sold it for just \$150.

The enthusiasm was short-lived because the money soon ran out. The bills were stacking and the hunger quickly returned. It was around that time that her daughter introduced her to videos that showed how to get free makeup from the dumpster. It was worth taking a look at because there were plenty of items to be found.

Dumpster diving is often viewed as taboo. Though getting in the actual dumpster is not always required, it is a matter of taking items that have been discarded. Ortiz starting finding many valuable items quickly realized she could sell these items and turned to online garage sales.

The [dumpster diving diva](#) was born. Seven days a week, eight hours a day, city after city and dumpster after dumpster, the hunt was on. Commercial dumpsters hold a treasure trove of perfectly usable and most importantly, sellable items. Ortiz began making her own videos in order to share the opportunity of how to turn trash into an income. She knew if she could inspire others to get out there, then nobody would have to go hungry.

Stores throw things away that may not be perfect enough for them to sell, but a small scratch, dent or missing piece of plastic makes it a valued find for any urban spelunker. Ortiz's most memorable find was 17 Keurig coffee makers that were found within a short period of time and her favorite find has been Chanel perfume.

When you are ready to give it a try for yourself, there are a few things to consider. First and foremost is to be respectful and clean up your mess. Never dump anything in the dumpster that did not come from that dumpster. Look for signs; if there are 'No Trespassing' signs, turn away. Stay clear of dumpsters that are behind locked/closed fences. Always bring tools like flashlight, grabbing tool and baby wipes.

Though there is something to be said for the thrill of the hunt, there is nothing more rewarding than helping others in need. She says, "I never keep food that I find and I never charge for it. I know what it is like to be hungry so I always offer those items for free to someone that can pick them up use

them.”

The most quantitative way that she gives back is by teaching others how to create their own economy through dumpster diving, deep discount shopping, couponing and drop shipping. Companies across America discontinue items every day and mark them down. With few exceptions, the same discounts apply companywide.

Ortiz host's a YouTube channel 'Tanya Ortiz Network' with more 500,000 views where she posts weekly videos providing a list of what to look for with the deep discounts as well as inspirational wisdom and other opportunities.

Her Facebook group called "[Create Your Own Economy Today](#)" is an online community has 30,000 members networked all over the country, where discount information is shared instantaneously. The members inspire and encourage each other by sharing their dumpster finds, deep discount deals and creative ways putting them together to sell them.

Members also share creative ideas with each other. Some make baskets and wreaths and set up a peddler's pop-up shop on the side of the road, while others take to the flea markets and attract the attention of large crowds. The group platform allows members to share photos and get advice from other members that sell and would-be buyers as to how much to charge, feedback on the look of their items and advice for potential changes that can increase their price and sell-ability.

Ortiz has diversified and continues to help others by sharing every successful venture she tackles.

The American dream is to be your own boss and this is a prime example that if she can do it, you can too. Ortiz takes advantage of drop shipping opportunities and offers one-on-one attention to train others to do it also. The key is to have access to items that you can reliably order once they sell, while turning a profit on each item, but never dealing with overhead and physical inventory storage.

Ortiz had a background in sales prior to her ten year marriage. She had a nice relaxed life with the ability to travel, participate in charity events and enjoy a lifestyle that many only dream about. When her marriage ended and her world crumbled before her eyes, she rose from the ashes to recreate herself. She lives the American dream every day and it is only a dumpster away.

Laurie Lauer  
pr.liaison  
2108029567  
email us here

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