



RESEARCH IN THE SOCIOLOGY OF WORK
VOLUME 11

LABOR REVITALIZATION:
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
AND NEW INITIATIVES

DANIEL B. CORNFIELD
HOLLY J. McCAMMON
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LABOR REVITALIZATION: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES AND NEW INITIATIVES

EDITED BY

DANIEL B. CORNFIELD

*Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville,
Tennessee, USA*

HOLLY J. McCAMMON

*Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville,
Tennessee, USA*

2003



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in Labor Studies. A third workshop took place on the 15th and 16th of February, 2002, attended by national and regional union leaders in addition to labor analysts.

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Labor Revitalization: Global Perspectives and New Initiatives

Labor Revitalization is among the first works to examine variations among nations in the wide array of initiatives labor unions and labor movements are taking to strengthen themselves and recruit new members. Moving beyond previous research on the factors leading to union decline, the international group of scholars who have contributed to this volume present new research and unveil a new research agenda on the many initiatives unions are taking, and the different social, economic, and political challenges they face in several world regions, as labor movements endeavor to revitalize themselves. These revitalizing initiatives include changing labor leadership and membership organizing strategies; "social movement unionism"; broadening the range of services provided to union members; and pursuing political and legal reform that achieves freedom of association. The contemporary cases of labor revitalization in this volume have occurred in Australia, Brazil, Germany, Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Venezuela. The new research agenda presented here rests on the conceptualization of labor revitalization as "socially embedded action," or strategic action taken by labor unions to strengthen themselves by redefining their relationships with workers, employers and states. Each of the three parts of *Labor Revitalization* addresses labor's changing relationships with workers, employers, and states, respectively. The book will appeal to scholars, students, and policymakers in sociology, economics, political science, labor studies and labor-management relations, human resource management, and public policy studies.

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