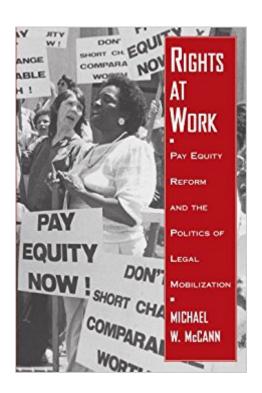


The book was found

Rights At Work: Pay Equity Reform And The Politics Of Legal Mobilization (Chicago Series In Law And Society)





Synopsis

What role has litigation played in the struggle for equal pay between women and men? In Rights at Work, Michael W. McCann explains how wage discrimination battles have raised public legal consciousness and helped reform activists mobilize working women in the pay equity movement over the past two decades. Rights at Work explores the political strategies in more than a dozen pay equity struggles since the late 1970s, including battles of state employees in Washington and Connecticut, as well as city employees in San Jose and Los Angeles. Relying on interviews with over 140 union and feminist activists, McCann shows that, even when the courts failed to correct wage discrimination, litigation and other forms of legal advocacy provided reformers with the legal discourseâ "the understanding of legal rights and their constraintsâ "for defining and advancing their cause. Rights at Work offers new insight into the relation between law and social changeâ "the ways in which grass roots social movements work within legal rights traditions to promote progressive reform.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Michael W. McCann is chair and professor in the department of political science at the University of Wisconsin. He is the author of Taking Reform Seriously: Perspectives on Public Interest Liberalism.

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In Rights at Work: Pay Equity Reform and the Politics of Legal Mobilization (Chicago Series in Law and Society), Michael McCann tries to demonstrate how law shapes and is used by social activists, with a focus on equal pay and gender discrimination claims. The book reads like an on-the-ground account of these movements, with passionate statements from insider activists. It's an interesting look as to when law matters - or doesn't - and the cynicism that pervades activists with regards to legal means. It's also appreciated that McCann wrote about an activist movement other than the mid-century civil/women's rights movements, which have been covered extensively elsewhere. Still, the book's focus on activism probably makes it more appropriate for scholars interested in social movements rather than strictly law per se.

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