

# The Voice of the People: Primary Sources on the History of American Labor, Industrial Relations, and Working-Class Culture

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The first all-primary source reader in labor history published in nearly one hundred years, The Voice of the People presents excerpts from fifty-four primary sources to blend labor history's traditional focus on the growth of a union movement with windows into all aspects of workers lives—their workplaces, their unions, their home lives and their culture—the engaging selections mirroring the great diversity of the American workforce from the colonial era to the present.

Arranged into four parts, each of which begins with an original overview of the corresponding period in American history, this unique compilation of edited documents—each of which is preceded by a contextual introduction—offers students the opportunity to explore for themselves how specific events as well as general trends in American labor history affected real people, whether farm laborers, slaves, servants, mill hands, prostitutes, assembly-line workers, office temps, fast-food employees, or union leaders.

While its organization and diverse range make it an excellent companion to Harlan Davidson's popular Labor in America,\* The Voice of the People can also stand alone or be used as an engaging supplement for any course in labor or United States history.



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