

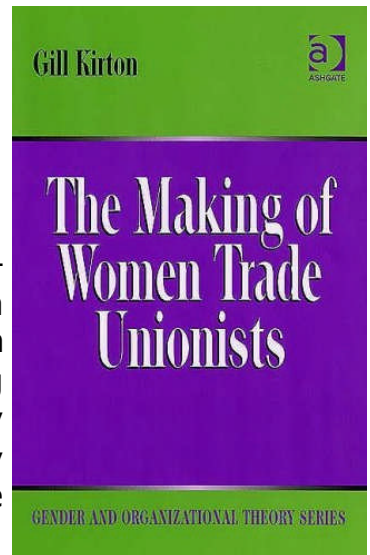
WLRI Trade Union Seminar Series 2008

The making of Women Trade Unionists

- Gill Kirton, Queen Mary University
- Chris Coates, TUC Library Collections

Wed 21st May 2008: 5.00-7.00pm

This paper examines how and why women become active in male-dominated trade unions; it explores the purpose and value of one form of women's separate organizing – women-only trade union schools – in the making of women trade unionists. At the same time the intersecting influences of broader union, work and family contexts on the trajectory of women's activism are explored. The paper argues that women-only schools are a significant event, experience and influence that promote and strengthen women's union participation.



Dr Gill Kirton is Reader in Employment Relations at Centre for Research in Equality and Diversity, School of Business and Management, Queen Mary, University of London. Her research focuses on equality and diversity issues in employment and organizations. Her work has explored women's trade union activism, women's separate organizing and gender democracy. More recently she has studied diversity management policy and practice in UK organizations from a stakeholder perspective. Her research has been published in leading journals including: *Work, Employment and Society*; *British Journal of Industrial Relations*; *Industrial Relations Journal*; *International Journal of HRM*; *Gender, Work and Organization*. She is also author/co-author of three books in the field.

WINNING EQUAL PAY
the value of women's work



Christine Coates is the Librarian of the TUC Library Collections. She will be introducing 'Winning Equal Pay: the value of women's work', which is part of The Union Makes Us Strong website and is a partnership initiative between London Metropolitan University and the Trades Union Congress to record the long campaign to achieve equal pay for women. This learning resource is supported by the European Social Fund EQUAL Programme and includes: Teachers Notes, a Unionlearn Tutors' Pack, filmed interviews with women who fought for and won equal pay, hundreds of digitised images and documents from the TUC Library Collections, plus contributions from historians and other experts.



WLRI: London Metropolitan University
31 Jewry St, London EC3N 2EY
5-7pm in Room JS2-73

This event is free, open to all, and there is no need to register.

Contact Max Watson in JS2-77 for further enquiries:

0207 320 3042 / m.watson@londonmet.ac.uk