

Appendix B – Consent Form



University of the
West of England

BRISTOL

Union Mobilisation and employers counter mobilisation in the UK construction industry (1973-2013)

Consent Form

Thank you for considering taking part in this research. If you have any questions please ask a member of the research team before you decide whether to take part. You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep and refer to at any time.

Yes No

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- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | I confirm that I have read and understand the information sheet and have had the opportunity to ask questions about the project. | |
| 2 | I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at anytime without giving any reason. | |
| 3 | I understand that, should I not wish to answer any particular question or questions, I am free to decline. | |
| 4 | I agree to the audio recording of the interview. | |
| 5 | I understand that my responses will be kept strictly confidential and accessible only to members of the research project team. | |
| 6 | I understand that the data collected from me will be anonymised in the reports that result from this research, and in any future academic research. | |
| 7 | I agree for the data collected from me to be used in future academic research. | |
| 8 | I agree to take part in the above research project and will inform the lead researcher should my contact details change. | |
| 9 | I agree that my name and responses can be made public in any future articles, books or publications relating to the same topic. | |
| 10 | I agree that any documentation provided to the study can be used in research reports or related publications, providing that personal sensitive data is not made public. | |
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Name of participant
(or legal representative)

Date

Signature

Lead researcher

Date

Signature

To be signed and dated in presence of the participant

Copies:

Once this has been signed by all parties the participant should receive a copy of the signed and dated participant consent form. A copy of the signed and dated consent form should be kept with the project's main documents which must be kept in a secure location.

Appendix C – Questions in semi-structured interviews

Personal stuff

Name – Age – From

Trade – family?

Payment method? – why agency or self employed?

Union Activity

Union

Why did you join? – family?

Roles you held?

Issues

Could you describe the background to any dispute you were involved in?

What issues most fuelled a sense of grievance during the disputes?

How did you first become aware on the issue?

How many reps?

Union density?

Collective or individual?

What forms did action take?

At what point did you think that workers may have to consider strike action?

Reflecting on the dispute what do you think were the key events/moments?

Your role

What did you do?

Can you describe how you organised throughout the dispute?

How did the activists decide on strategy in the dispute – were there conflicting views? how did you reach decisions?

Was there ever a ballot for industrial action? If not, why not?

How did you communicate with members / workforce?

For those that did not take strike action – why do you think this was?

What sorts of arguments would you use in these cases?

What do you think made you so resilient and determined during the disputes?

How did you sustain yourselves in the midst of such negative media and employer responses?

What do you think sustained the support of the membership throughout?

What activity was effective – any examples?

Can you describe what you did on strike days?

Who did you see as giving you support during the dispute?

Why do you think action took place on your site but not on hundreds of others with similar objective conditions?

Serving v organising?

Consciousness raising?

Official v unofficial action?

Was action official or unofficial?

Did you ever have a ballot?

What was the role of union officials during action?

What was the interaction between the workplace reps and the FTOs?

Relationship between activists and the official union?

Why do you think that most action was unofficial? What makes construction different to other industries?

Multi-site campaigns

Did you ever try to organise workers not just for your employer?

What campaigns were you involved in?

How did they organise? Who led them? How often did you meet? What was discussed at meetings?

What was the role of the union officials?

Why do you think the construction industry has such campaigns but other industries lack them?

Publications - Who wrote it? Printed it? How was it distributed? Funding?

Difficulties for union organising?

What factors made it difficult for unions to organise?

Self-employment?

Time on site? Average job length for you?

Loyalty to the company?

What changes have occurred during your working life that impact on successful union activity?

Management response?

What did employers do?

Were you ever sacked or denied work? Family impact?

How did management respond to the activists?

Did you ever see or experience any violence?

What was your experience of blacklisting?

What did you think when you first saw your blacklist file?

What made you continue being a union activist despite the blacklist?

What can union do to defend / protect its activists?

The state

Did you think the police or security services were involved?

Is there anything in your blacklist file or union experience where the state appear to have been involved?

Did the role of the state influence the way you operated as a trade union activist?

Politics

How would you describe your politics?

How did your involvement change your politics?

Was politics the reason you carry on?

Reflection

Why did you carry on?

Looking back, how do you view your activities?

Appendix D – Table of Abbreviations

AEEU	Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union
ACPO	Association of Chief Police Officers
AUBTW	Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers
BLF	Builders Labourers' Federation
BSG	Blacklist Support Group
BWC	Building Workers Charter
BWG	Building Worker Group
BWSC	Building Worker Safety Campaign
CFMEU	Construction Forestry Mining and Engineering Union
CIPD	Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development
COPS	Campaign Opposing Police Surveillance
CP / CPGB	Communist Party of Great Britain
CRF	Construction Rank & File
CSC	Construction Safety Campaign
ECA	Electrical Contractors Association
EETPU	Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union
EL	Economic League
ETU	Electrical Trades Union
FOI	Freedom of Information Act
FTO	Union Full Time Official
GMB	General Municipal and Boilermakers Union
HR	Human Resources
HRM	Human Resources Management
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
ICO	Information Commissioner's Office
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IRO	Industrial Relations Officer
JIB	Joint Industry Board
JSC	Joint Sites Committee
LP	Labour Party
MT	Militant Tendency
MPSB	Metropolitan Police Special Branch
NAECI	National Agreement for the Engineering Construction Industry
NDEDIU	National Domestic Extremism and Disorder Intelligence Unit
NETCU	National Extremism and Tactical Coordination Unit
NPOIU	National Public Order Intelligence Unit
NRB	Not Required Back
NUT	National Union of Teachers
OILC	Offshore Industry Liaison Committee
RMT	Rail Maritime and Transport union
SA	Socialist Appeal
SASC	Scottish Affairs Select Committee
SAR	Subject Access Request
SDS	Special Demonstration Squad
SO15	Counter Terrorism Command
SP	Socialist Party
SNP	Scottish National Party

SWP Socialist Workers Party
TCA The Consulting Association
T&G/TGWU Transport and General Workers Union
UCATT Union of Construction Allied Trades and Technicians
URG Undercover Research Group
WRP Workers Revolutionary Party