



JUNE 19

TH

LABOUR  
DAY

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Labour Day celebrations in Trinidad and Tobago was declared an annual national holiday in 1973. Celebrated on June 19th, it is the anniversary of the day of the Butler Oilfield Riots, which took place in 1937.

Prior to this time there were ongoing tensions between workers and employers in many sectors of society. These were characterized by situations of worker abuse, underpayment for labour, racism, economic depression and a considerable fall in the living standards of the working class.

# HISTORY

Between 1934 and 1937 workers became more influenced by a need for change resulting in strikes and riots on the sugar plantations and in the oil fields and in September 1937, the Oilfield Workers Trade Union (OWTU) also became the first registered trade union in the country representing the rights of those in the petroleum industry.



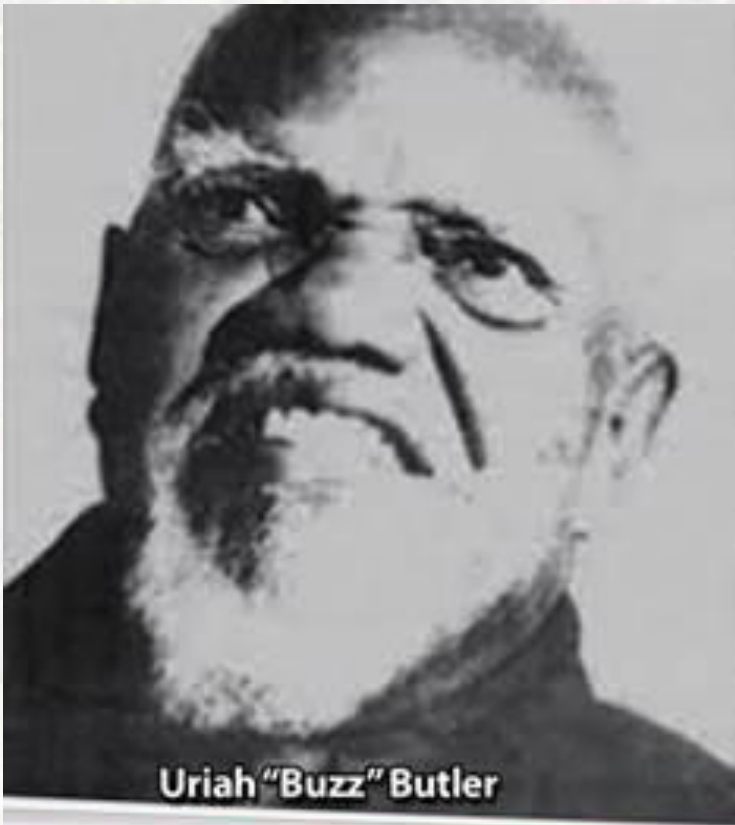
# HISTORY

During a labour dispute on the Port-of-Spain wharves in November 1919, Captain Andrew Arthur Cipriani called on the workers to withhold their labour, resulting in their first significant industrial strike in Trinidad.

# HISTORY

This social unrest then extended throughout the Caribbean and gave rise to several prominent labour leaders in Trinidad and Tobago such as Tubal Uriah “Buzz” Butler, Captain Andrew Arthur Cipriani, George Weekes, Albert Maria Gomes, Adrian Cola Rienzi, Elma Francois, and C.L.R James.

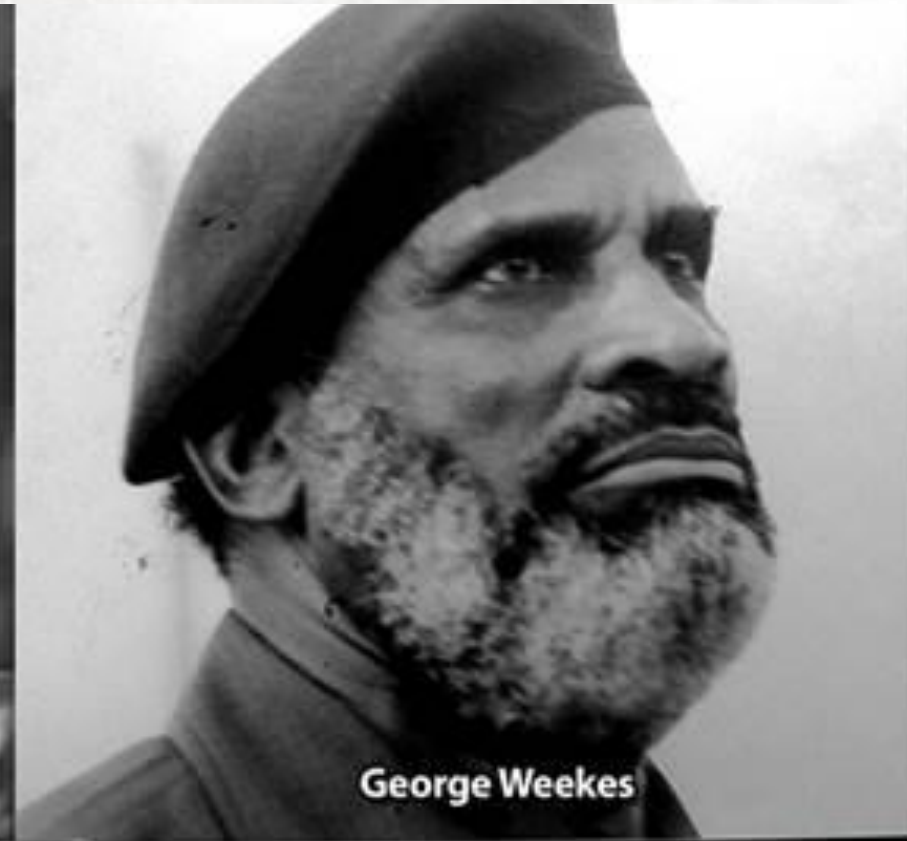
# PIONEERS IN LABOUR



Uriah "Buzz" Butler



Captain Andrew Arthur Cipriani



George Weekes

# PIONEERS IN LABOUR



# PIONEERS IN LABOUR

Albert Maria Gomes



Adrian Cola Rienzi



Elma Francois



C.L.R James







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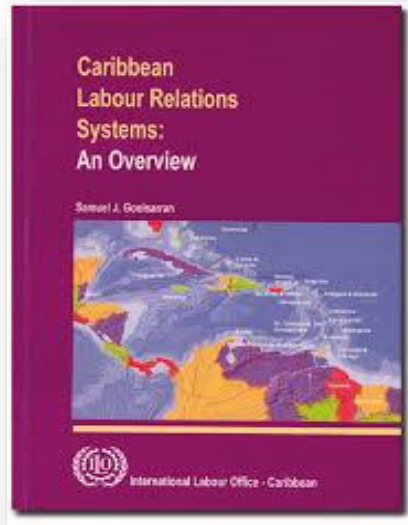




# MONOGRAPHS

**19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE** **LABOUR DAY**  
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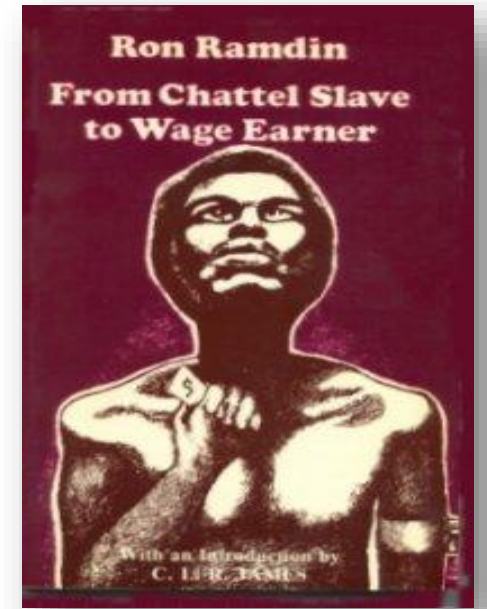




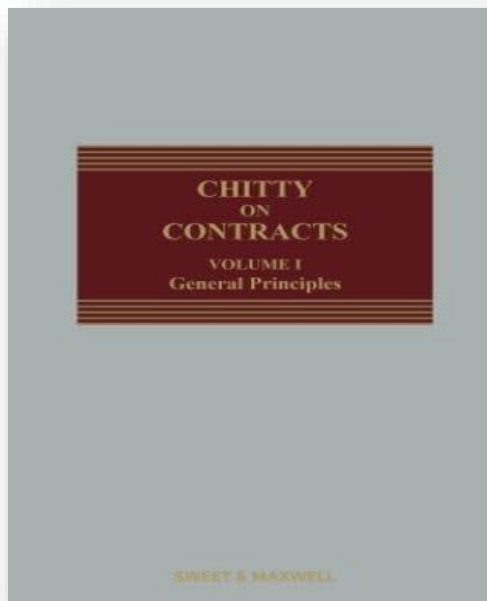
331.104 (729) GOO

This book presents some current issues confronting governments and the social partners – representatives of trade unions and employers and their organisations. It is also a comparative picture of the legal framework of many institutions of labour, procedures and various means for dispute settlement in the collective bargaining process, and generally for the conduct of industrial relations.

This is the first history of Trade Unionism in Trinidad and Tobago and an important study of colonial and neo-colonial labour history. It provides a timely and useful perspective on the local labour movement. West Indian emigration is well known but little understood. Given also the country's recent industrialization and the wider implications of this, the reader concerned with the problems of underdevelopment in the Caribbean will find much of interest in this book.



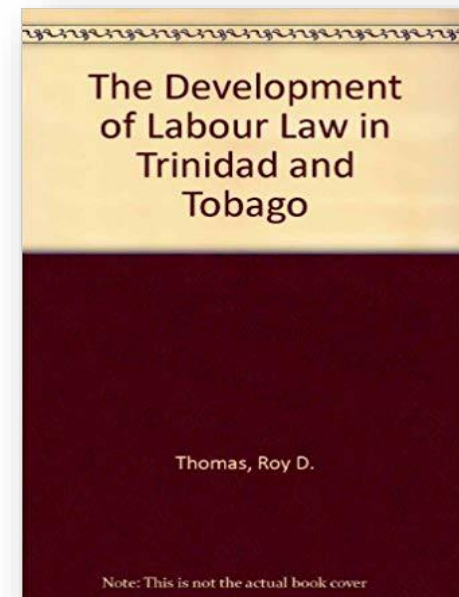
331.881(729.87) RAM



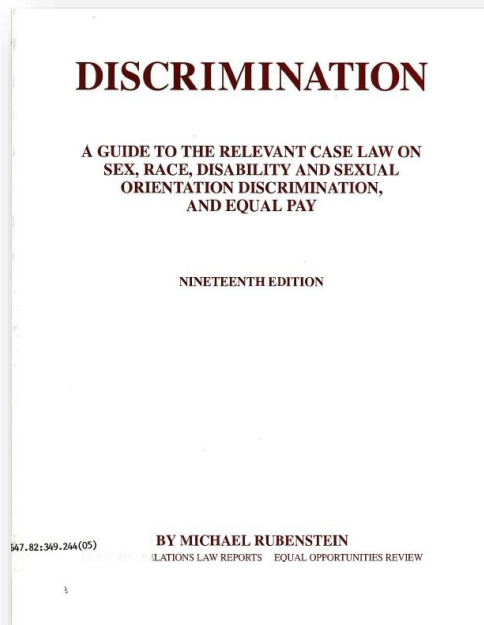
347.44(410) CHI

This authoritative text provides comprehensive coverage of UK contract law, addressing core principles, complex issues, specific contract types, and recent legal developments. It serves as a key resource for legal interpretation and dispute resolution within the Common Law framework.

This book gives a lucid account of the development of labour law in Trinidad and Tobago, covering both the colonial and Independence periods.



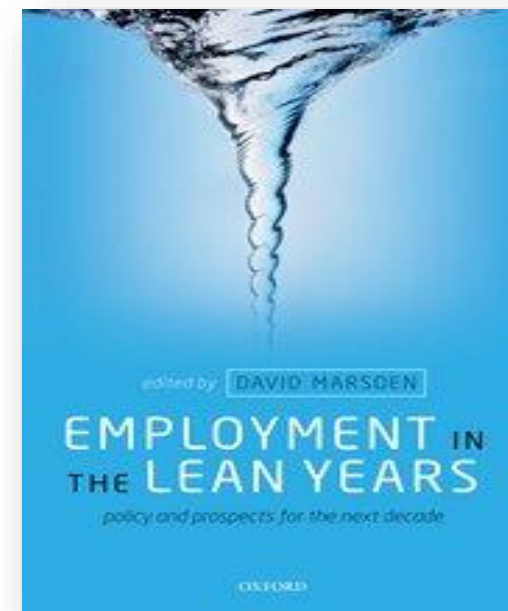
349.2(729.87) THO



331.881(729.87) RAM

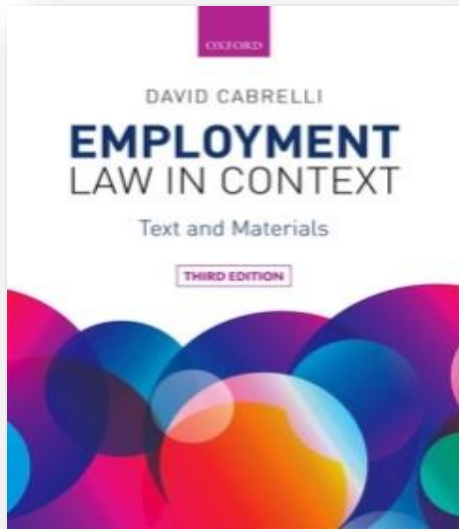
This book takes into account the effect on the case law of discrimination cases reported in Industrial Relations Law Reports (IRLR) during 2005.

This collection has been specially written by some of the most eminent experts and researchers on labour market issues. Each chapter seeks to map out the challenges, based on the latest theory and evidence, and then identify the areas of labour market policy that are needed.



331.5.021(410) EMO<sub>4</sub>

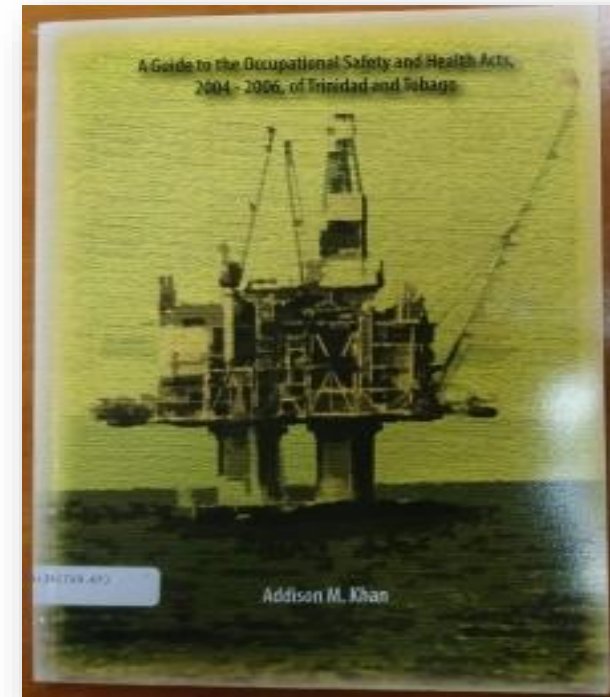




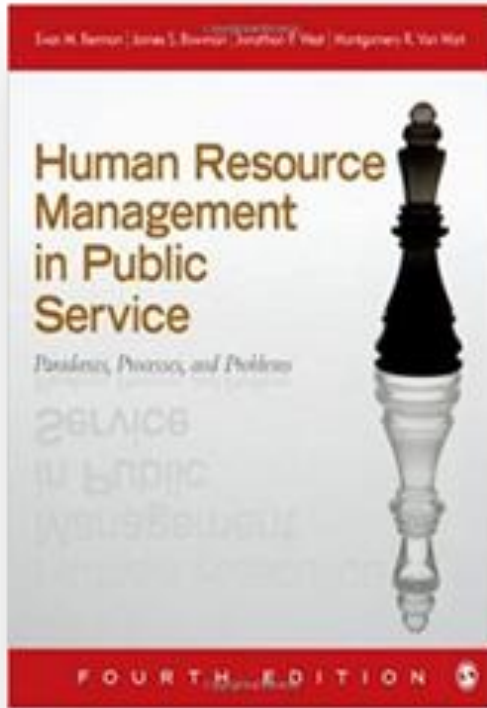
349.2: 331(410) CAB

This textbook is primarily intended to give an account of the current laws relating to the regulation of the workplace, employment, and industrial relations. It seeks to comprehensively cover the subject of individual employment law and collective labour law in the UK in an accessible, engaging and highly contextual format.

This book presents in simple language and in an orderly fashion, the multifarious provisions of the current Occupational Safety and Health legislation of Trinidad and Tobago.



331.4:34(729.87) KHA

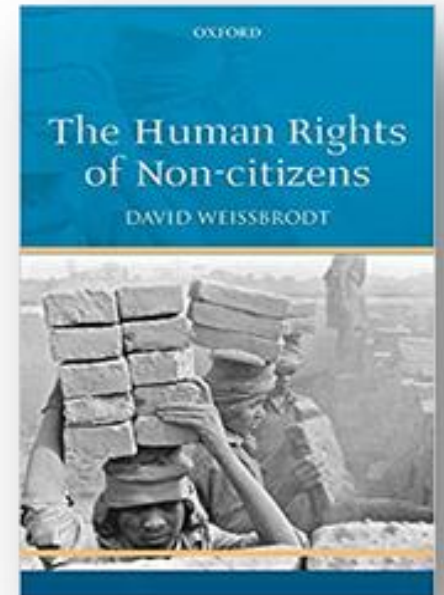


005.96:331.101.264.24 BER

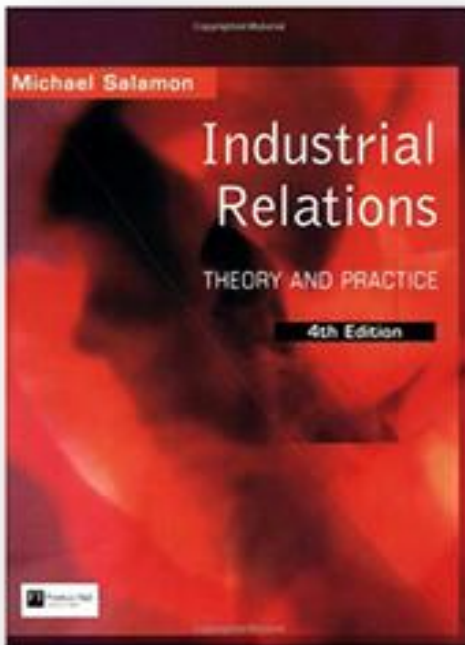
This book probes issues such as pay reform initiatives in compensation, employee and management competencies in training and development, novel ways to evaluate individuals in the appraisal process, or the right to strike in labor-management relations from both employee and managerial viewpoints.

This book asserts that all non-citizens—regardless of status—should be entitled to full human rights based on their inherent humanity. It argues that any distinctions must serve a legitimate, proportionate State objective. Non-citizens should be protected from abuses such as arbitrary arrest, forced labor, inhuman treatment, and violations of humanitarian law.

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342.717 WEI

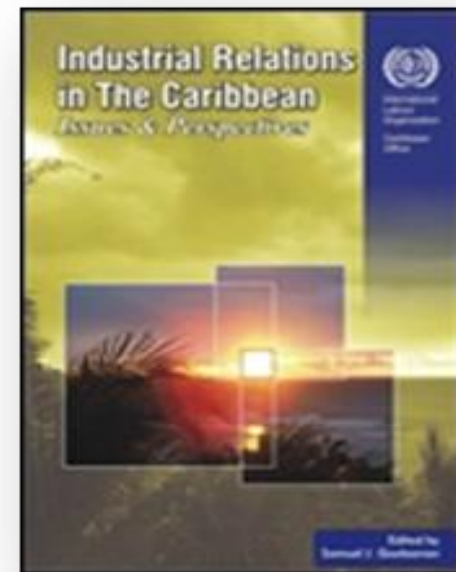


331.1 SAL

This book draws on an extensive range of sources and materials to provide a framework of concepts and knowledge for understanding and analyzing approaches industrial or employee relations, the roles of the major participants, the issues confronting them and the strategies and processes used.

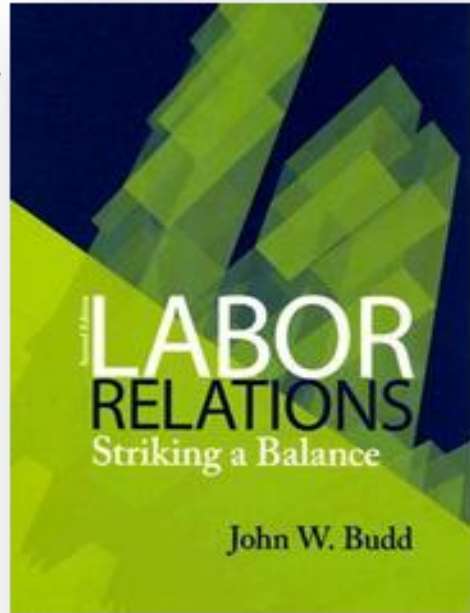
This book presents the general perspective and overview of Industrial Relations, the active role of stakeholders and social partners, relevant labour institutions and agencies, reflects on labour law and regulations. It reviews procedures, ranging from voluntary self-regulation to compulsory measures, for the institutional management of the industrial relations system.

Library, ICTT



331.104 (729) IND

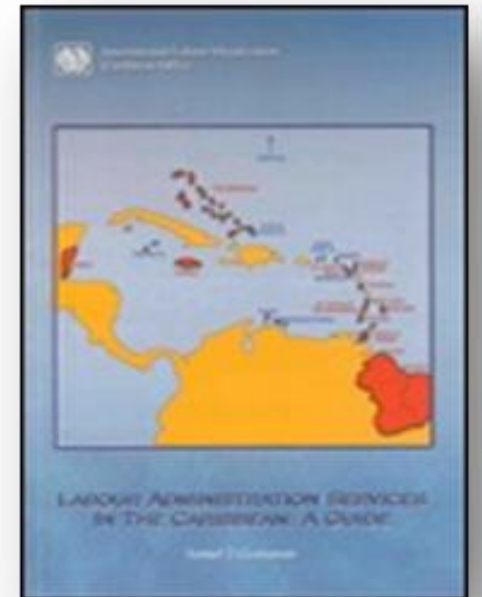




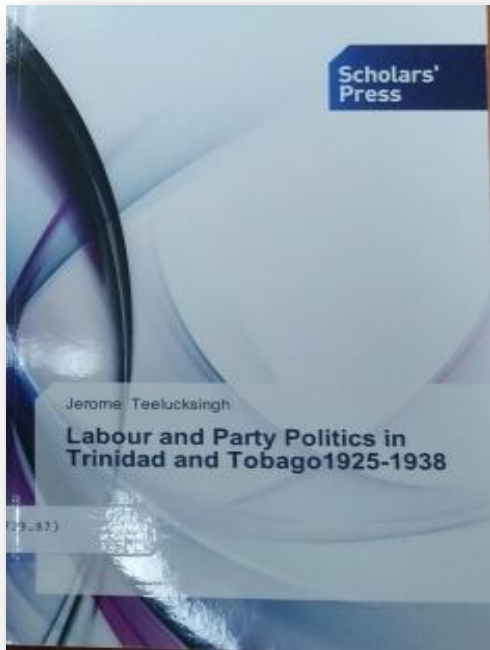
331.104(73) BUD

This book presents labor relations as a system for striking a balance between the employment relations goals of efficiency, equity, and voice, and between the rights of labor and management. The book concludes with chapters to promote reflection on the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and the possibilities of reform.

This guide has been prepared essentially with a view of helping labour officials and practitioners in the labour administration field to have a better understanding of the range and scope of labour administration services, in keeping with ILO Convention No. 150 and ILO Recommendation No. 158 concerning Labour Administration.



331 (729) GOO 18

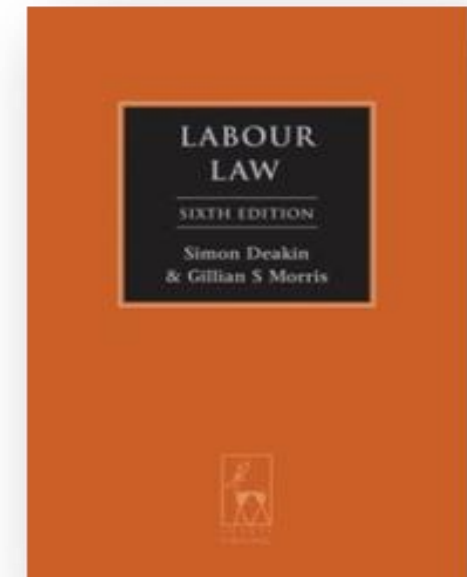


329(729.87) TEE

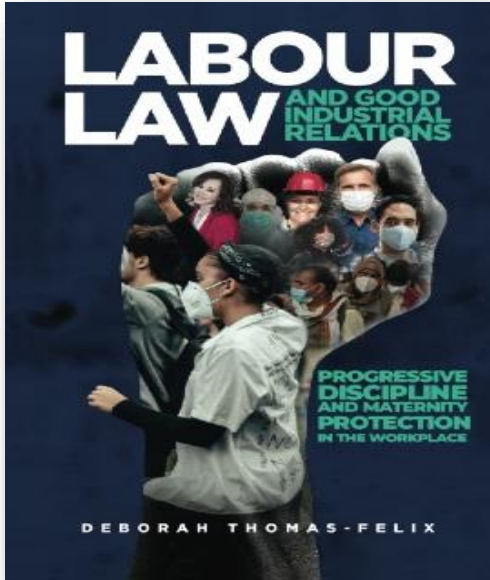
This study argues that the TWA, later the Trinidad Labour Party (TLP), and independent Labour candidates laid the groundwork for 20th-century party politics in Trinidad. It highlights how the TWA/TLP's strong organizational strategies—such as candidate selection, campaigning, and public debate—contributed to their credible performances and limited successes in the 1925, 1928, 1933, and 1938 municipal elections.

This book explores the evolving nature of labour law, emphasizing how it is shaped by common law, collective bargaining, social legislation, and transnational standards. It places the law in historical context, incorporates comparative and international perspectives, and examines related areas of labour market regulation.

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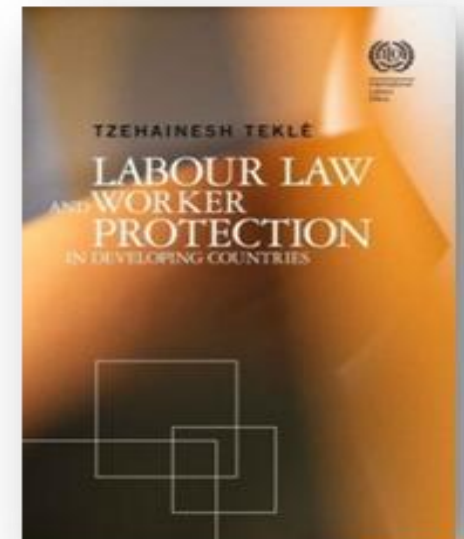
349.2: 331(410) DEA



349.22:331.108.6  
(729.87) THO

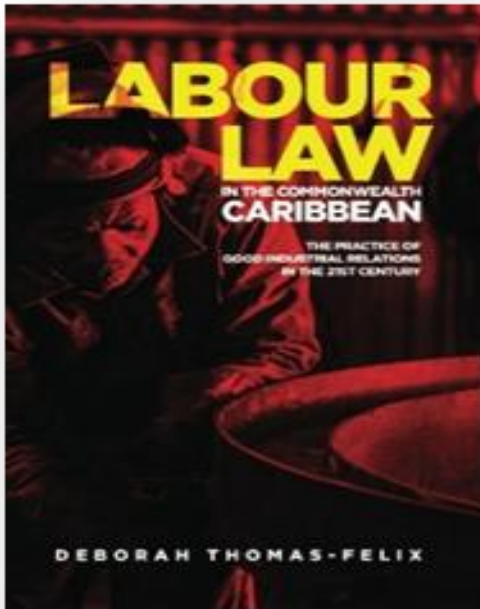
This book examines key workplace issues, focusing on Progressive Discipline and Maternity Protection. It discusses disciplinary measures such as warnings, suspensions, summary dismissal, the right to be heard, and changes to employment terms. It also explores maternity rights for working women globally—in Africa, the Americas, the Arab World, Asia, and Europe. The book emphasizes the importance of workplace rules and policies for effective management, stressing that their implementation must be fair and just.

This book critically reviews the relevant literature and reflects upon the way in which workers' protection tends to be conceptualized, as well as on the adequacy of the legal categories and tools used to further it, with special attention given to the effectiveness of labour legislation in promoting gender equality.



349.2: 331(1-773) LAB

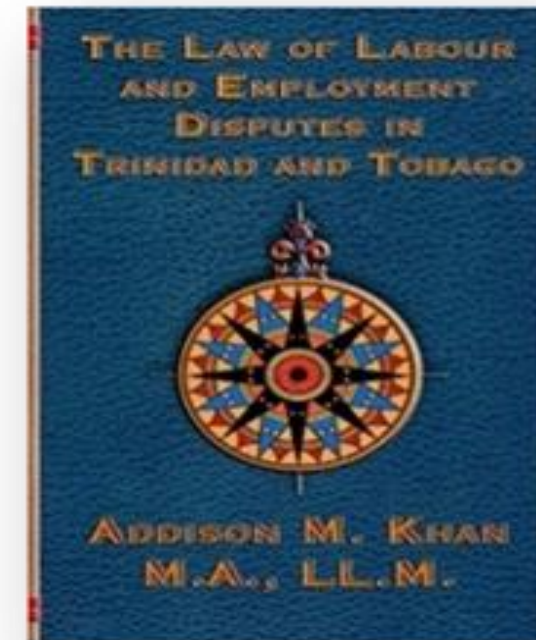




349.2 (729) THO

This book offers a comprehensive guide to key workplace and industrial relations topics, including management prerogatives, employment contracts, layoffs, retrenchment, dismissal, and reinstatement. It analyzes 176 cases and legislation from England and several Commonwealth Caribbean countries to illustrate complex legal principles and good industrial relations practices.

This book gives useful guidance on the operation of the Industrial Relations Act Chap. 88:01 and the practice and procedures of the Industrial Court. It gives an insight into the unsatisfactory industrial relations climate that existed prior to the implementation of the new system and discusses the multifarious provisions of the Industrial Relations Act, and judgments of the Industrial Court on a variety of cases determined by it from 1965-2005.



331.109:349.2(729.87) KHA

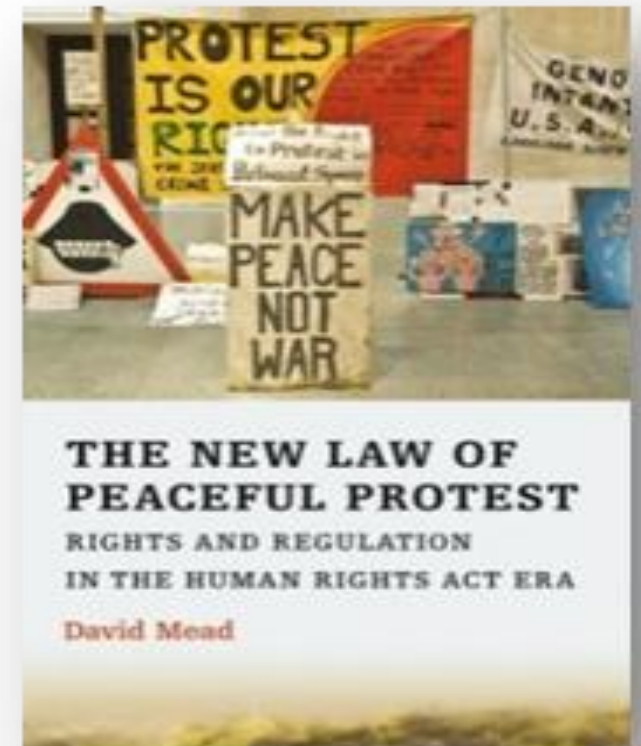


331.556 MIA

This book posits a parallel development of precarious citizenship for migrants, made increasingly vulnerable by the global economic crisis. But we are also in an era of profound social transformation, in the context of which social counter-movements emerge, which may halt the disembedding of the market from social control and its corrosive impact.

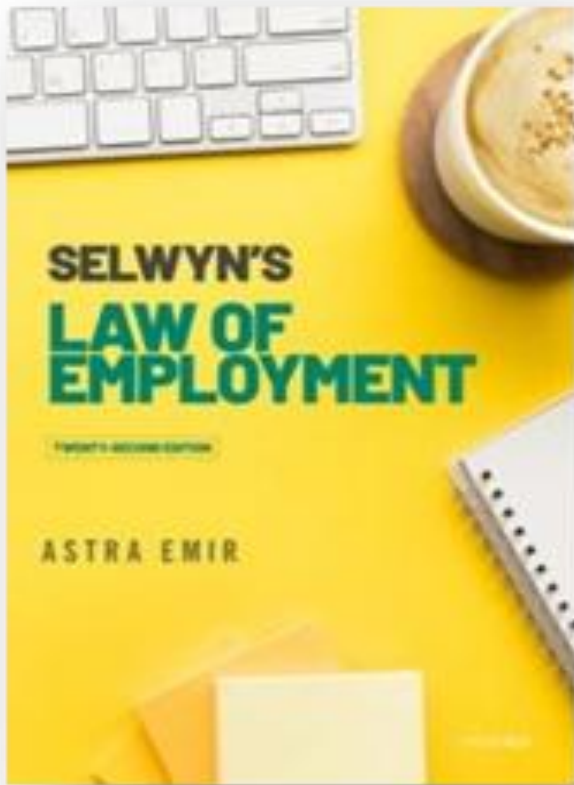
This book provides a detailed analysis of the legal framework governing the right to peaceful protest, a cornerstone of democratic systems. It examines key issues including location restrictions, limits on persuasive protest, intolerance of disruptive actions, police preventive powers, and the use of private law remedies by commercial entities.

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342.729(410) MEA

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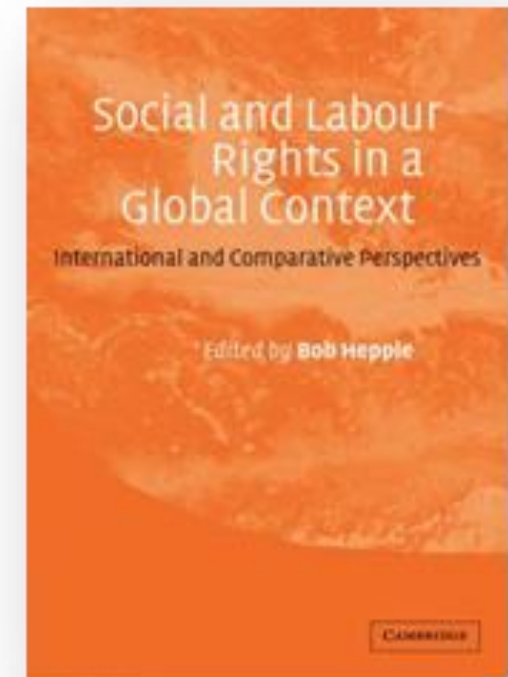


349.2:331(410) SEL

This book offers comprehensive coverage of individual and collective employment law matters, with reference to UK and EU case law, ensuring its use as a complete reference guide and encouraging students to gain a well-rounded understanding.

This book combines several essays written by leading scholars from the UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and USA and questions the effectiveness of the new rhetoric of rights such as those to decent work and security, equality of opportunity, adequate food and housing and healthcare.

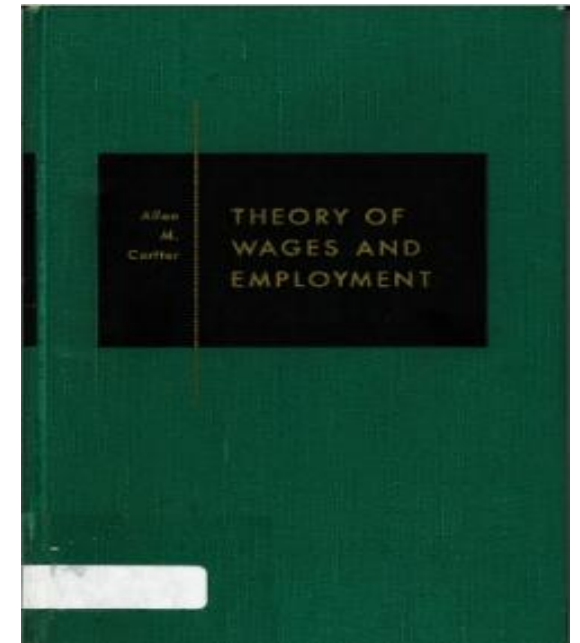
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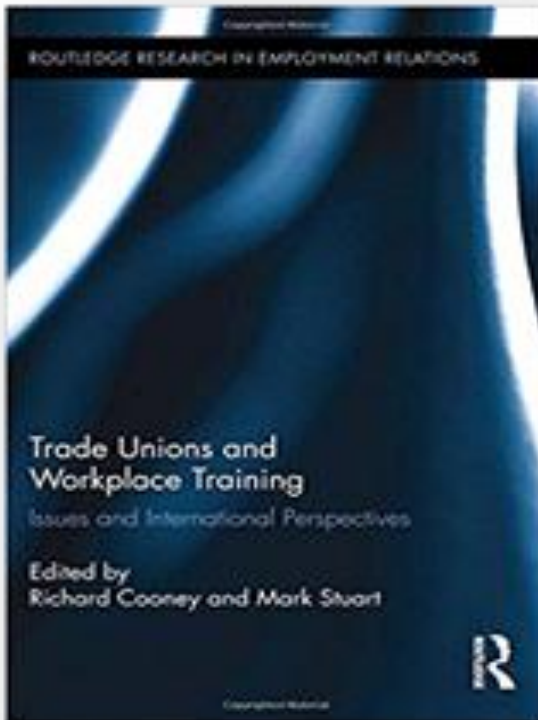
342.7+331:005.44 SOC



This book concentrates on the wage decision at the level of the firm, and on the relationship between the resulting level of wages in the economy as a whole and other factors which influence the level of employment.

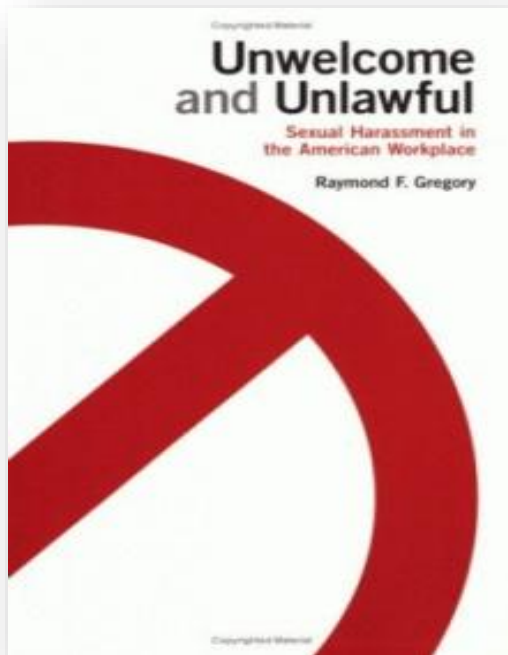


331.214 CAR



331.105.44+005.963.5 TRA

Drawing from insights from industrial relations, human resource management and industrial sociology this book provides an alternative source of research-based materials and texts, reviewing key developments in employment research.



364.634+343.541:331(73) GRE

This book presents some current issues confronting governments and the social partners – representatives of trade unions and employers and their organisations. It is also a comparative picture of the legal framework of various labour institutions, procedures, and means for dispute settlement in the collective bargaining process, as well as for the conduct of industrial relations.

This book breaks down the dismissal process and covers all key aspects of labour law related to dismissal, including progressive discipline, the right to be heard, principles of natural justice, and constructive dismissal. The content is enriched with real-life cases, historical context, and personal anecdotes to provide practical insight and depth.

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# ENCYCLOPEDIAS

**19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE** **LABOUR DAY**  
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



*Encyclopedia of employment law (Volume 1-4)*

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[(031.038)349.2:331 ENC]

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# INFORMATION FILES

*[A Collection of Newspaper Articles for the period 2005-2025 ]*

- Industrial Court of Trinidad and Tobago
- Industrial Relations
- Labour Laws
- Labour Legislations
- Minimum Wage
- Trade Unions
- Unemployment
- Wages



- All Trinidad Sugar and General Workers' Trade Union
- Amalgamated Workers' union
- Aviation Communication And Allied Workers' Union
- Bank and General Workers' Union
- Bank Employees Union
- Banking Insurance And General Workers Union
- Communication Workers Union
- Communication, Transport And General Workers' Union
- Contractors And General Workers Trade Union
- Federation of Independent Trade Unions And NGO'S
- National Farmers' Union
- Nation Trade Union Centre
- National Union of Government and Federated Workers
- Public Service Association
- Public Service Commission
- Seamen and Waterfront Workers Trade Union
- Steel Workers Union of Trinidad and Tobago
- Trinidad And Tobago Unified Teachers Association

## Trade Unions



# REPORTS, SPEECHES & PRESENTATIONS

**19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE** LABOUR  
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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Baker, G. B. G. *The Introduction in the Industrial Court Effective January 2007 of a System of Fixed Benches and Related Matters – An Overview*. Dec. 2006.

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---. “Navigating the Industrial Court: Key Considerations and Best Practices for Employers.” *Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce*, 21 Feb. 2025.



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## Cover photo:

Rampersad, A. (June 19, 2018). Newsday. Several trade unions march from Avocat Junction Fyzabad to Charlie King Junction Fyzabad in celebration of Labour Day in TT. Several speakers including leaders of unions under the Joint Trade Union Movement and FITUN.

## History:

“Labour Day – NALIS – National Library and Information System Authority.” *nalis.gov.tt*, 2024, [www.nalis.gov.tt/resources/tt-content-guide/labour-day/](http://www.nalis.gov.tt/resources/tt-content-guide/labour-day/).



## MORE INFORMATION

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