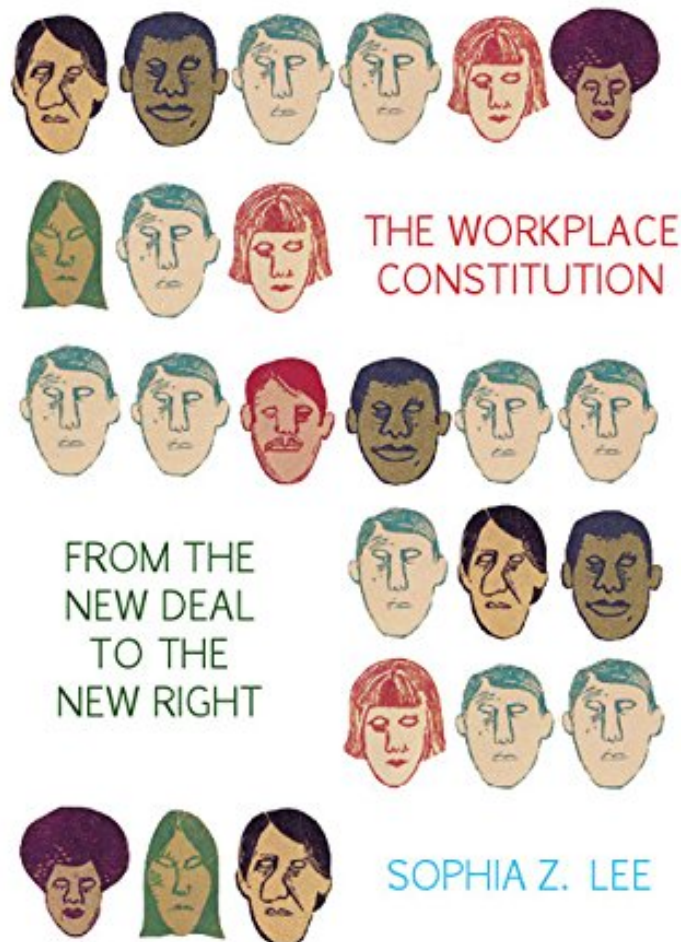


The Workplace Constitution from the New Deal to the New Right (Studies in Legal History)

Sophia Z. Lee

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Sophia Z. Lee : The Workplace Constitution from the New Deal to the New Right (Studies in Legal History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Workplace Constitution from the New Deal to the New Right (Studies in Legal History):

Today, most Americans lack constitutional rights on the job. Instead of enjoying free speech or privacy, they can be fired for almost any reason or no reason at all. This book uses history to explain why. It takes readers back to the

1930s and 1940s when advocates across the political spectrum - labor leaders, civil rights advocates and conservatives opposed to government regulation - set out to enshrine constitutional rights in the workplace. The book tells their interlocking stories of fighting for constitutional protections for American workers, recovers their surprising successes, explains their ultimate failure, and helps readers assess this outcome.

"The Workplace Constitution from the New Deal to the New Right is both ambitious and important - it moves across time and among a variety of individuals, organizations, and government entities, and it utilizes a wide range of archival material - all of keen interest to historians, legal scholars, and political scientists alike. Lee's formidable intelligence gives us new insights, as well as historical and historiographical surprises." Risa L. Goluboff, John Allan Love Professor of Law and Justice Thurgood Marshall Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Virginia "Sophia Lee brilliantly pairs her analysis of the civil rights movement with the rise of the right-to-work movement and the 'union-avoidance' industry. She also matches her fine history of the state action theory with an equally persuasive argument that administrative agencies have been a fruitful source of constitutional visions and versions. This beautifully written book represents deep and broad research and entirely original analysis. I know of nothing like it." Laura Kalman, University of California, Santa Barbara "Sophia Lee's *The Workplace Constitution from the New Deal to the New Right* is one of the most insightful and provocative studies of the bifurcated matrix of laws and court rulings that govern the American work regime. Deploying a marvellous talent as narrative historian, Lee demonstrates that the attempt to construct a labor relations regime that simultaneously protects the rights of racial minorities proved an enormously vexing and contentious project, one standing close to the heart of American politics for more than half a century." Nelson Lichtenstein, MacArthur Foundation Professor in History, University of California, Santa Barbara "A superb and compelling account of the long-running quest for constitutional rights in the workplace since the 1930s. Relying on extensive archival research, Lee offers two intertwined legal stories that enrich but also complicate our vision of twentieth-century political history." Jean-Christian Vinel, *The American Historical* "A nuanced narrative history of 1930s-1980s campaigns to extend constitutional rights to private-sector workers both inside and outside labor unions, and to thereby create what Lee calls a 'workplace constitution' ... provides a rich history of conservatives' legal theories of government power over the workplace - from the open shop movement to opposition to affirmative action ... her focus on administrative agencies reframes histories of court decisions and extends the history of fair employment litigation well past the 1940s era ..." Trevor Griffey, *The Journal of American History* "Lee's magnificent book interweaves the histories of the civil rights and right-to-work movements ... will certainly spark further inquiry by students and scholars of civil rights, labor, constitutional law, conservatism, and the administrative state." Deborah Dinner, *Law and History* About the Author Sophia Z. Lee is Assistant Professor of Law and History at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Her work has appeared in the *Virginia Law and Law and History*. She earned her JD and her PhD in history from Yale University. Prior to joining the Penn Law faculty, she clerked for the Honorable Kimba M. Wood of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and served as a Samuel I. Golieb Fellow in Legal History at New York University School of Law. As a graduate student, she won awards and fellowships from the American Society for Legal History, the American Historical Association, and Yale Law School.