1. Record Nr. UNINA9910780666403321 Autore Sugiman Pamela H (Pamela Haruchiyo), <1958-> Titolo Labour's dilemma: the gender politics of auto workers in Canada, 1937-1979 / / Pamela Sugiman Toronto, [Ontario];; Buffalo, [New York];; London, [England]:,: Pubbl/distr/stampa University of Toronto Press, , 1997 ©1994 **ISBN** 1-282-04551-2 9786612045516 1-4426-7655-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (315 p.) Disciplina 331.4/78129222/09713 Soggetti Women automobile industry workers - Canada - History - 20th century Sex discrimination in employment - Canada - History - 20th century Automobile industry workers - Labor unions - Canada - History - 20th century Women labor union members - Canada - History - 20th century History Electronic books. Ontario Canada Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- INTRODUCTION: Contradictions. Dilemmas, and the Politics of Gender -- 1 A Gendered Setting: The Southern Ontario Auto Industry and the UAW Canadian Region -- 2 The Gender Politics of Men in the UAW (1937a€?1945) -- 3 Femininity and Friendship on the Shop Floor (1937a€?1949) -- 4 Becoming 'Union-Wise' (1950a€?1963) -- 5 'That Wall's Comin' Down!': Industrial Restructuring and UAW Women's Struggle for Gender Equality (1964a€? 1970) -- 6 Social Change in a Complex Milieu (1970a€?1979) -- 7 Conclusion: Constructing Gender and Equality -- NOTES Sommario/riassunto The growth of the United Auto Workers in Canada dramatically

improved the lives of thousands of workers. Not only did it achieve

impressive bargaining gains, but the UAW was regarded as one of the most democratic and socially progressive of the major industrial unions in North America. However, workers in the automotive sector, who constituted the largest segment of the UAW membership, witnessed blatant gender inequalities. From 1937 to 1979, UAW leaders did little to challenge these inequalities. Both the union and the workplace remained highly masculine settings in which male workers and bosses played out the gender politics of the times. Pamela Sugiman draws on archival materials and in-depth interviews with workers and union representatives to explore the ways in which the small groups of women in southern Ontario auto plants fought for dignity, respect, and rights within this restrictive context. During the Second World War, women auto workers formed close bonds with one another - bonds that rested largely around their identification as a sex. By the late 1960s, they were drawing on a growing union consciousness, the modern women's movement, and their gender identity, to launch an organized collective struggle for sexual equality. In describing the women's experiences, Sugiman employs the concept of a 'gendered strategy.' A gendered strategy incorporates both reasoned decisions and emotional responses, calculated interests and compromises. Within a context of gender and class divisions, workers developed strategies of coping, resistance, and control. Labour's Dilemma reveals how people may be simultaneously agents and victims, compliant and resistant.