

Young workers: attitudes to work, unions and activism

Dr. Andy Hodder - University of Birmingham

We are looking for young people (18-30) to participate in a TUC research project on the relationship between young workers and trade unions.

The primary aim of this study is to understand and analyse the views of young people on trade unions. The project follows on from earlier work conducted into the way in which young workers are recruited and organised into unions. The purpose of this project is to conduct further interviews with young trade unionists themselves to provide insights into their experience of trade unionism to date.

The researcher, based at the University of Birmingham, is seeking:

1. To understand attitudes of young workers to work and dispute resolution in the workplace
2. To understand attitudes of existing young members to activism in social movements generally with an emphasis on identifying any barriers to trade union activism
3. To understand push and pull factors relating to young workers and unions
4. To understand what would make engagement in union activism more attractive and practical

The research will be conducted through interviews with university students, full-time trade union officials and lay representatives, and social movement activists. On completion of the research, it is hoped that the findings of the research will be published by the research team in academic and practitioner journals.

We recognise the potentially sensitive nature of the research involved and can assure you that any information gathered during the research project will be treated confidentially at all times. This can be guaranteed by ensuring that neither your details nor the identity of your employer is included when collecting the data from this interview. Furthermore, no participants involved in the project will be identified when we report our findings in subsequent publications arising out of research.

If you would like to be involved in this project or have any questions about the research please do not hesitate to contact the project leader using the details below.

Best wishes,

Andy

Dr. Andy Hodder
Lecturer in Employment Relations
Birmingham Business School
University of Birmingham
Birmingham
B15 2TT
a.j.hodder@bham.ac.uk
0121 4146536