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978-0-521-86086-4 - *Contesting the Corporation: Struggle, Power and Resistance in Organizations*

Peter Fleming and André Spicer

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Contesting the Corporation

In an age when large corporations dominate the economic and political landscape, it is tempting to think that their power goes largely unchecked. *Contesting the Corporation* counters this view by showing that today's corporations are fundamentally contested spheres driven by political struggle, power plays and attempts to resist control. Building on a wide range of theoretical sources, Fleming and Spicer present an analysis of the different ways in which power operates within the modern workplace. They begin by building a theoretical perspective that synthesizes previous investigations of power and resistance, identifying struggle as a key concept. Each subsequent chapter illustrates a different dimension of workplace struggle through an array of original empirical studies relating to sexuality, cynicism, new social movements and new-wave trade unionism. The book concludes by demonstrating that social justice claims underlie even the most innocuous forms of resistance, helping to transform some of the largest modern corporations.

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Some chapters in this book gain their inspiration from previously published material. Chapter 4 draws on ‘Working at a cynical distance: implications for power, subjectivity and resistance’, *Organization*, 10 (1): 157–79. Chapter 5 develops further the arguments in ‘Sexuality, power and resistance in the workplace’, *Organization Studies*. Chapter 6 is inspired by ‘You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave: spatial boundaries in a high commitment organization’, *Human Relations*, 57 (1): 75–94. And Chapter 7 gains impetus from ‘Intervening in the inevitable: contesting globalization in a public broadcaster’, *Organization*.