

Finally Making the Grade

Author: John Bohanna [1]

In: Red Pepper, No Dec/Jan, 2011, pp. 54-55

Recalls that the 1968 Ford Dagenham strike for equal pay, although it achieved a substantial pay rise and eventual parity with men on the same grade, did not recognise the skilled nature of the sewing-machinists work by upgrading them. Provides brief account of later 1984 strike by women machinists demanding upgrading, which led to an independent inquiry, which recognised their claim. A film *Making the Grade* by the Open Eye Film, Video and Animation Workshop documents this second struggle.

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