Other Women's Movement

"In this smart and readable book, Dorothy Sue Cobble rewrites the history of twentieth-century feminism. She reconstructs a vital variant of postwar feminism—labor feminism—that put the needs of working-class women front and center. This important book provides a timely reminder of the multiplicity and complexity of the modern American women's movement."

—Joanne Meyerowitz, author of How Sex Changed: A History of Transsexuality in the United States

"Dorothy Sue Cobble's new book tells the stirring story of women like Esther Peterson, Gloria Johnson, Addie Wyatt, and many others who over the last half century led the struggle for workplace respect and fair pay, equal opportunity, and the right to family leave and child care. Advocates for today's working families will find much inspiration and wisdom in this rich history of America's working women."

-John J. Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO

"Cobble has given us a richly informative and persuasively argued reassessment of the historic role of those pioneering feminists who fashioned their demands around the needs of working-class women on the job and in the home, rather than on the aspirations of women in the professions. She shows clearly why veteran feminist activists with close ties to the labor movement and "second wave" feminists both clashed with each other and had much to learn from each other. Above all, Cobble reminds us of the perils for women lurking within free market ideology and the persistent, indeed growing need for a social wage, in addition to equality on the job. Truly one of the year's most important books."

-David Montgomery, Yale University, author of Citizen Worker

"Cobble's beautifully written, provocative study of the labor feminism that emerged in the crucible of the union upsurge of the 1930s and 1940s deepens and complicates our understanding of the historical interconnections between gender and class consciousness. She has compiled an enormous body of original evidence for the important claim that feminism did not emerge full-blown from the new social movements of the 1960s, but drew on a rich legacy of women's efforts to achieve equity in the workplace in the context of industrial unionism. That legacy is not merely of historical interest but has enormous relevance to today's struggles for social justice, in which labor issues once again are at the vital center."

-Ruth Milkman, author of Gender at Work and Farewell to the Factory

"The book is a tour de force of historical analysis. The Other Women's Movement pursues the very ambitious goal of reconstructing the historical relationship between feminism and working women in the United States between 1930 and 1980. The book brilliantly achieves this goal."

-Kathryn Kish Sklar, Binghamton University

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