Strikes and Lockouts

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Vocabulary

Conciliator- a person who helps two sides in a disagreement, for example employers and employees, to meet and talk about their different ideas in the hope of ending the disagreement.

Impasse- a situation in which progress is impossible, especially because the people involved cannot agree.

Vandalism- the crime of intentionally damaging property belonging to other people.

Concerted- planned or done together for a shared purpose.

Picketing- an activity in which a worker or group of workers protest outside a building to prevent other workers from going inside.

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Introduction

Strikes and lockouts are used as tools by employees to improve their economic positions and attain their goals.

A strike occurs when there is a cessation of work, a refusal to continue work, a slow-down or other **concerted** activity initiated by employees for the purpose of slowing down the employer's output. **Picketing** is an activity that can take place during a strike.

A lockout takes place when the employer either shuts the place of employment, suspends work, or refuses to continue to employ a number of employees in an attempt to persuade those employees to agree to terms of the organization.

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