

The Role of Trade Unions in South Africa: A Case Study of Mondi Craft Industry in KwaZulu-Natal Province

N.G. Tshabalala

*Department of Sociology, University of Zululand, P/bag X1001, KwaDlangezwa,
3886, South Africa
Telephone: +27832020197, E-mail: jeffrey058@gmail.com*

KEYWORDS Collective Bargaining. Industrial Relations System. Strike Action. Trade Unions. Worker Rights

ABSTRACT The study investigated how trade unions influenced the Industrial Relations System at Mondi Craft Industry in Kwa-Zulu Natal Province. Data was collected from a sample of 50 participants. To test the hypotheses, the study used the Chi-square (χ^2) statistics to measure the agreement or disagreement between the sample data versus the hypotheses. From the findings of this study, it can be concluded that trade unions have taken various structures in their endeavors to protect their members' rights. This study therefore recommended that there is a need for employers to recognize trade unions in their places of business. Both employers and employees have to engage in a reciprocal relationship in order to maintain peace and harmony in the work environment. The industrial relations system in South Africa remains dynamic because it is influenced by changes in the labor and sociopolitical spheres.