

Contents

Introduction	11
Chapter 1: The significance of the post-1945 "consensus" in Britain for the trade union movement	17
1.1 Economic developments interacting with social consensus	17
1.2 British labour law in the context of consensus politics	38
1.3 Conclusion	57
Chapter 2: The theoretical foundations of Conservative labour relations legislation during the 1980s and 1990s	59
2.1 The Conservative macroeconomic strategy	59
2.2 The Conservative microeconomic strategy	79
2.3 Conclusion	109
Chapter 3: The link between Conservative macro and micro policies in shaping social strategy following the breakdown of the post-war "consensus": the significance of the common law in preserving the "free"- market order	111
Chapter 4: Fundamentals of the labour movement response to the economic and social developments of the 1980s and 1990s and to Conservative trade union legislation	153
4.1 The impact of the economic and social policies of the Thatcher Government on the trade union movement	153
4.2 The interlocking of political confrontation with employers' strategy for the introduction of new technology and changes in working practices	174
4.3 Attempts in the labour movement to counter the Conservative trade union legislation	186
4.4 Conclusion	197

Chapter 5: From defeat in 1992 to the <i>New Labour</i> landslide in 1997	199
5.1 "Snatching defeat from the jaws of victory". Labour's policy review and the 1992 election campaign: the ERM disaster	199
5.2 From Labour to <i>New Labour</i> : the impact of the change of Party leadership on the Party's development in the aftermath of the 1992 election defeat	217
5.3 The 1997 election victory: an historic chance for <i>New Labour</i>	226
5.4 Conclusion	251
Chapter 6: Conclusion	255
Appendix 1: Tables	265
Appendix 2: Bibliography	277
Appendix 3: Glossary of Abbreviations	295
Index	299