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Roz Goldie

A DANGEROUS PURSUIT

THE ANTI-SECTARIAN WORK OF COUNTERACT



Roz Goldie

A Dangerous Pursuit

The anti-sectarian work of Counteract

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This is the untold story of Counteract, the trade union sponsored anti-sectarian unit tackling violent sectarianism in the workplace in the Northern Ireland conflict. As the death toll mounted through the 1980s key union women and men started what was planned as a campaign to support workers and became a ground-breaking facility for mediating sectarian disputes in the workplace in these violent times. People were shot for challenging flags at work, drivers hijacked at gun point and forced to drive bombs, taxi drivers murdered in tit-for-tat

sectarian killings, and workers were forced out of jobs because of sectarian threats and intimidation. This is a hidden part of the peace process, showing the path from «Shipyard confetti» to nuanced expressions of sectarian hostility.

ROZ GOLDIE is currently a visiting scholar at the George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queen's University Belfast.



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