

## Everybody leads. In what direction?

Every labor union member should recognize themselves as a leader of their union. Every member influences and therefore leads their union.

Even if you never do or say anything about your union, you influence it. Doing nothing, for example, creates an expectation that some members will do nothing.

You cannot *not* influence and lead your union. So in what directions do you want to lead it?

Answering a few questions can help you understand the context in which you lead:

- What portion of the people who work for your employer, in your industry, and in your state/country/world have membership in your union or an allied union?
- Has the percentage of workers in your workplace/industry/locality/world with union membership increased recently?
- Of the union members in your workplace/industry/locality/world what portion actively participate in union work?
- Has the percentage of workers actively participating in union work in your workplace/industry/locality/world increased recently?
- What might affect membership rate and participation rate?

Answering these questions can help you lead, but you do *not* need to answer them before consciously leading.

Next week's Strategy Note offers five key questions to guide your leadership.



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