

DK-1, "AVCO 1970's – Gender and Racial Mix of Employees"

Transcript: p. 3

Text portion for pop-up/audio alternative

Time-Line location: Labor time-line, 1974, May 17: "Black Employee sues Avco-Lycoming..."

In the factory it was mostly white male, predominantly white male. Very few women were in the factory. Not very many minorities at all. It was mostly, as I say, white males. It wasn't until sometime, probably in the 19...during the Vietnam War, that women were, because of the shortage of manpower. The plant was very busy at the time, and in fact they had about 12,000 employees working three shifts seven days a week around the clock. I was a steward at the time and women started to come into the plant at certain entry level jobs, re-skilled jobs, light work, machine jobs. They had the seniority. We started, the union started pressing for opportunities to get them promoted. So eventually that sex barrier in the machine shop was broken down. But it didn't occur until the late...the middle of the 1970's.