

# Picket Line Chants

There ain't no power,  
Like the power of the people,  
Cuz the power of the people won't stop!

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We are the union! (call and response)  
Mighty, might union. (repeat)  
Everywhere we go-o.  
People want to know-o.  
Who we are.  
So we tell them. (Repeat)

UNION!

-----  
We're fired up, we won't take it no more!  
(Repeat)

-----  
On strike, shut it down,  
Madison is a union town!

-----  
Organize, don't fool around,  
Madison is a union town!

-----  
Union town, through and trough,  
You for me and me for you!

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Their \_\_\_ percent, won't pay the rent!

-----  
They say cut back,  
We say fight back!

-----  
El pueblo, unido, jamas sera vencido!  
The people united, will never be defeated!

What do we want? Contract!  
When do we want it? Now.

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\_\_\_\_\_ is unfair!

All we want is our fair share?

-----  
There is one thing clear to me,  
People here have unity!

-----  
Hey, hey, ho ho,  
Union power is on the go!  
(or) Poverty wages have got to go!  
(or) Where did all the money go!  
(or) Union busing has to go!

-----  
\_\_\_\_\_, rich and rude  
We don't like your attitude!

-----  
Lies and tricks will not divide,  
Workers standing side by side!

-----  
1, 2, 3, 4 We know what we're out here for!  
Or: 1,2,3,4 We won't take it anymore!  
Or: No one should be working poor!  
--and--

5, 6, 7, 8 Come on \_\_\_\_\_, negotiate!  
Or, Come on \_\_\_\_\_, play it straight  
Or, Where's our contract, why so late?

-----  
We're bad, we know it,  
We're here to show it!

We're gonna beat (pause), back the boss'  
attack

We're gonna beat beat back the boss! (Yeah!)

Variation:

We're gonna beat back the \_\_\_\_ attack

We're gonna beat back the \_\_\_\_ attack.

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What you see is what you get,  
And you ain't seen, nothing yet!

-----  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen  
Union (5x) .....  
Organize (5x) ..... , etc.  
(Traditional melody)

-----  
(Army marching tune)

call: Union power on the rise  
response: Now's the time to organize  
call: No more bosses, tricks & lies  
response: Give our children better lives

-----  
Who's got the power?  
We got the power.  
What kind of power?  
Union power!

-----  
We're working families (healthcare workers,  
etc.)  
Under attack  
What do we do?  
Stand up! Fight back!

-----  
We're out of the office and onto our feet.  
We're off of our asses and out in the street.  
So put on the heat, out in the street,  
Cuz Union power can never be beat!

We need staff ---they just laugh  
We need supplies ---they roll their eyes  
We need money ---they think it's funny  
But if we fight ---they'll do what's right!

-----  
What's disgusting?  
Union busting!  
What's outrageous?  
Sweatshop wages!

-----  
Just say no to \_\_\_\_\_'s lies  
Defend our right to organize!

-----  
What does \_\_\_\_\_ have to hide?  
Sweatshop products made inside.

-----  
(Thump, thump clap) 4x  
(tune: We Will Rock You)  
We are, we are union!  
We are, we are union!

-----  
I don't know but I've been told  
\_\_\_\_\_ heart is mighty cold!  
Say they have open door  
But open your mouth and its out the door!  
Say they want to talk to you.  
Really means NO WORK FOR YOU !  
They don't know of Unions might  
We'll have to show them day and night  
And when its all said and done  
We get back to work and have some fun

-----  
Call: We are...  
Response: Union!  
Call: We are...  
Response: Union!

Hey, hey, what do we say.  
We want a contract right away!

Hey, hey, don't delay  
Give us a contract with fair pay!

Hey, hey, what should we do?  
It's you for me, and me for you!

Hey, hey what do you know?  
(employer) moving mighty slow!  
-----  
There is one thing clear to me!  
The people here have unity!  
-----  
Want to know what all the fuss is?  
We are standing up for justice!  
-----  
Hey, hey, ho, ho.  
Union busting's got to go!  
-----  
Hey, hey, ho, ho.  
Union power is on the go!  
-----  
I don't know but I've been told,  
The bosses pockets are lined with gold.  
-----  
Lies and tricks will not divide.  
Workers standing side by side.  
-----  
U=G=L=Y  
(the boss) ain't got no alibi  
it's Ugly, absolutely UGLY!  
-----  
When I say Union, You Say Power,  
UNION, POWER  
UNION, POWER

Radical Cheerleaders' Taco Bell Chant:  
Hey \_\_\_\_\_, you better listen, listen,  
Cuz we're not kidin', kidin',  
Cuz we are stayin', stayin'  
'Til you are payin', payin',  
A Living Wage (clap, clap – clap, clap)  
For our blood (clap, clap – clap, clap)  
Our sweat (clap, clap – clap, clap)  
And tears (clap, clap – clap, clap)  
-----  
Who's got the power,  
We got the power,  
What kinda power,  
Working people power,  
How'd ya get that power,  
Union power.  
-----  
Who's got the power?  
Union's got the power  
What kind of power?  
Working people power!  
POWER!  
POWER!  
Working people power  
POWER!  
POWER!  
Power by the hour  
Mighty  
Union  
Mighty  
Union  
-----  
Thanks to AFT member Ruth Goldbaum,  
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CHANTS FOR A LIVELY PICKET LINE.  
More are available at:  
<http://laborheritage.org>.