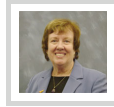


- updated **September 1, 2005**

[Strength In Numbers](#)



Learn more about the CCA
< President, Carolyn Inmon,
[here](#).

Strength In Numbers

There is strength in numbers!

Happy Labor Day

We must use our strength to protect labor.

We must use our strength to defeat Proposition 74.

We must use our strength to defeat Proposition 75.

We must use our strength to defeat Proposition 76.

My father Clyde was a dock worker in Long Beach and a proud member of one of the most powerful unions in the country. My Uncle Bud used to sit around the kitchen table and talk about what he would do if people crossed the picket line. I come from a family of ordinary workers and proud union members. Like so many of our students, I was the first and only member of my family to graduate from college. I come from a long line of union members and I have always understood the value of unions and the absolute necessity for them. One of my favorite films is Norma Ray. My favorite scene is when Norma made a hand lettered sign saying UNION and jumped on the table to show the sign to the workers. It is one of the most powerful nonverbal scenes in American film. One by one, the workers turned off their machines. They had much to lose. They had no union. They had no protection. They were poor and needed their jobs. But they took a chance and joined together in order to make things better. They understood the basic concept that they could accomplish more together than they could separately.

On this Labor Day, let us reflect on the history of unions and know that the methods of previous years matched the dire needs that existed. We have come a long way since the days of Clyde and Bud. Our methods are different. Our goals are similar. The need is identical. We need unions – now more than ever. There are forces in society that would wipe out our progress and return us to a previous time.

The dictionary defines UNION as joining together for a common purpose. Union simply means to be united or unified. And that's what we are. We unite together to provide strength. The 335,000 members of CTA and the 2.7 million members of NEA make up the largest and strongest labor unions in the state and the country. CCA is an important part of these organizations and together we gain strength.

It has been said that an injustice to one is an injustice to all. As your CCA President, one of my duties is to tell the story of community college faculty.

I will tell the story of Lisa and other former students who are now student teaching, hoping to become teachers in a year or so. If this governor gets his way, the time will be increased for them to get permanent status. This governor would make it easier for them to be dismissed. It is already hard to recruit excellent new teachers and this governor would make it even harder. This governor makes our young friends the scapegoats. There are problems in education but this idea does nothing to solve them.

WE MUST USE OUR STRENGTH TO DEFEAT PROPOSITION 74!

I will tell the story of Karin from Riverside, Denise from College of the Desert, and Terri from Mt. San Antonio – hard working chapter presidents who are laboring in small and large chapters for the betterment of faculty. This governor wants to make their jobs harder. He wants to silence their members. Although the corporate sector outspends labor 24 to 1, without obtaining permission to use the shareholders money, this governor thinks hard working chapter presidents should work harder. He wants to add more bureaucracy to their jobs.

WE MUST USE OUR STRENGTH TO DEFEAT PROPOSITION 75!

I will tell the story of John, an English professor friend of mine, who corrects papers until midnight during the week and on Saturday and Sunday as well. It concerns me that this governor wants to destroy Proposition 98 which would ultimately take away some of his compensation.

WE MUST USE OUR STRENGTH TO DEFEAT PROPOSITION 76!

Let's work together to show this governor that his unnecessary election was a

waste of time. Teachers, fire fighters and nurses have united to defeat him. Let's show him that he picked on the wrong members of society.

Any questions? Call the CCA office at 916/726-4207.

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