

# I DREAMED I SAW JOE HILL LAST NIGHT

FALL SEMESTER, 2017

## PART 1: JOE HILL AND THE WOBBLIES

Material from the reading by Harmon et al.

1. Know whether or not, according to accounts, **two men burst into** the Morrison grocery store with **red handkerchiefs** covering their noses and mouths. Know whether or not the **American party** functioned in **close league** with the **LDS church**. Know whether or not, in recounting the **earlier encounter** with two gunmen, **John Morrison** thought the gunmen wanted to **rob him, not kill him**, or the **other way around**. Know whether or not, in the **century since Hill's conviction**, historians, writers, legal experts, labor-rights advocates and others have **dissected every detail** of the evidence against Hill, nearly all **questioning the conviction**. Know whether or not **Robert** became friends with a staffer of the far-right **John Birch society** in Utah. Know whether or not some of the **stories handed down** through the Morrison family illustrate the strength of the Morrison's belief about **Hill's guilt** and their **irritation at his celebrity**. (Entire website)
2. Know whether or not it is **certain** that **Arling successfully fired and hit** one of the intruders. Know whether or not, after learning of the Morrison murders, **one or both of the doctors** who had treated Hill **tipped police to his gunshot wound**. Know whether or not the killers in the grocery store robbery **made no attempt** to take any **money before fleeing**. Know whether or not **Merlin's accounts** of what he could see have remained **consistent over time**. Know whether or not **Joe Hill told Dr. McHugh** that he was shot in a tussle with another man **over a woman**. Know whether or not Joe Hill was **born in Norway**. Know whether or not Joe Hill was **very open** about how he got his **gunshot wound**. Know whether or not **Governor Spry** agreed to **both requests** for a **stay** of execution from President Wilson. Know whether or not, at the preliminary hearing, several witnesses mentioned **scars on the faces** of men walking toward or away from Morrison's store. Know whether or not **Arling's bullet** was found **in the store**; the bullets fired by the intruders **were never found** (or the **other way around**). Know whether or not Joe Hill was charged **only with the murder of Arling**, not **John Morrison**. (Entire website)
3. Know whether or not, at the Chicago funeral, Hilton blamed The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for Hill's execution. Know whether or not the Morrison grandchildren have few doubts about Hill's guilt. Know whether or not Merlin and Michael Morrison agree that their father could have overcome the intruders if he had tried to shoot them. Know whether or not John Morrison suspected that someone in the neighborhood had wanted to kill him. Know whether or not Merlin enthusiastically supported unions, and Robert was in league with the socialists. Know whether or not John Morrison had, at one time, worked for the Salt Lake City Police Department. Know whether or not the IWW found rich potential for organizing workers in Utah's ramshackle mining and lumber camps, railroad yards and factories. Know whether or not, according to Basso, Wobbly numbers in Utah were never extremely large, but their influence was substantial. (Entire website)
4. Know whether or not Joe Hill often **set his songs** to the tunes of **popular hymns**. Know whether or not McCutcheon said Hill was writing songs **for the ages**, not songs **to be useful**, or the **other way around**. Know whether or not, according to **Bragg**, the history of folk song in America is the **unedited story** of ordinary **working people**. Know whether or not Hill's **techniques** and the **usefulness** of his lyrics connects him to modern rock groups such as **Rage Against the Machine**. Know whether or not **Hill's version** of "**There is Power in a Union**" was set to the tune of "**Rally Round the Flag**." Know whether or not, according to **McCutcheon**, while **union organizers** were motivated by **their ideology**, Hill's lyrics spoke **directly to workers**. Know whether or not "**The Preacher and the Slave**" parodies a popular Salvation Army hymn, "**In the Sweet Bye and Bye**." Know whether or not Joe Hill claimed that a **pamphlet**, no matter **how good**, is never read **more than once**, whereas a song is **learned by heart and repeated over and over**. Know whether or not IWW members **first appeared in Utah** at a 1910 convention of miners in **Eureka**. Know whether or not the IWW was based on the **openly confrontational notion** that the working class and the employing class **have nothing in common**. Know whether or not a 1975 history of U.S. labor estimated that **nationwide union membership** went from **868,500 in 1900** to more than **2 million within four years**. Know whether or not, with mine work encouraged by the **LDS Church leaders**, the surge in

demand drew **non-Mormon immigrants** by the **thousands**. Know whether or not **Adler** believed that Joe Hill was **guilty of the crimes** of which he was accused. Know whether or not **Hill and Magnus Olson** both emigrated from **Scandinavian countries**. Know whether or not Hill had **no apparent motive** and **no eyewitnesses** definitively identified him during trial. Know whether or not **Lougee is skeptical** about seeing **Olson as a prime suspect**. (Entire website)

### Material from the reading by Levine

1. Know whether or not **syndicalism** is understood to be a **revolutionary labor movement**, which aims at the **abolition of the wage system** through direct action culminating in the general strike. Know whether or not **American syndicalists** object to being **called as such**. Know whether or not the **Knights of Labor** represented a **broad and correspondingly vague** humanitarianism, the **Federation of Labor** a narrow **trade-group egoism**. Know whether or not there were a **number of industries** in which **craft unions could not be established** on a secure and permanent basis, **notable instances** being the **brewing and mining industries**. Know whether or not the **forces cited** in the article did not result in the formation of a **new type of unionism** in America until there were all **concentrated** in certain **western labor organizations**. Know whether or not the **Federation of Miners** gave impetus to the formation of other organizations **similar in form and in character**. Know whether or not the growth of the IWW during the **first year of its existence** was **disappointing**. Know whether or not, in the **western states**, the IWW organized a number of strikes--most of which **were lost**--and it carried on a **revolutionary propaganda** which often led it into bitter conflicts with the **municipal authorities** of the far western cities. (Entire article)
2. Know whether or not the nature of the field in which the IWW has been working has **accentuated the aggressive methods** towards which it leaned **from the beginning**. Know whether or not, in the **interval between 1908 and 1912** the tendencies of revolutionary industrial unionism, first **outlined** in the organizations of **western workmen**, assumed **increasingly definite form**. Know whether or not, although the **French syndicalists** have claimed **Haywood and others as their pupils**, the author sees this as an **exaggeration**. Know whether or not the **IWW believes** in the **advisability of merging** with the **American Federation of Labor**. The **IWW's tactics** are not those of a **daring advance guard**, but those of a **well appointed army**, retarded in its movements by an **elaborate commissariat**. Know whether or not the **only American organization** which embodies **syndicalist tendencies** is **the IWW**. Know whether or not, in the American labor movement, during the **last two decades**, anarchistic ideas have played a **greater role** than in the **French movement**. Know whether or not the **present leaders** of the IWW have been recruited mainly from the **ranks of the socialists**. (Entire article)
3. Know whether or not, in the **East**, the IWW had to **break ground for itself**, and at first its efforts **met with more success**. Know whether or not the declaration adopted by the **constituent convention of 1905**, concerning the political attitude of the working class, had been the **cause of much friction**. Know whether or not the **forced retirement of Haywood** from active participation in the labor movement was a **severe blow**. Know whether or not **faith in the industrial union** was clearly the **rallying point** of the Chicago convention. Know whether or not the **United Brewery Workers** were **embittered by attacks** on their industrial organization and by the **threat** of the American Federation of Labor to **revoke their charter**. Know whether or not, at the **Chicago convention**, towering **above all** in numbers and organization was the **Western Federation of Miners**, the **pioneer and standard-bearer** of revolutionary industrial unionism, desirous to **extend its influence** and to **advance its cause**. Know whether or not the influence which was **most effective** in shaping the **new conception of unionism** was a **purely intellectual one**. Know whether or not, in the **West** between **1902 and 1905**, a broader view of the **social role of the labor union** was developed. (Entire article)
4. Know whether or not, in **1902**, William D. **Haywood**, secretary of the Western Federation of Miners, advanced a plan which was to **enlarge the scope** of union activities. Know whether or not, in its **constitution and by-laws**, the American Labor Union embodied the ideas which had been developed by the **western organizations** in the **previous period**. Know whether or not the **strikes in the mining districts** of the West came **nearer to real warfare** than did **any other contests** in the history of the American labor movement. Know whether or not, **slowly, but still appreciably**, the propaganda of the socialists made progress. Know whether or not a **proper understanding** of the syndicalist tendencies in America can be attained only by examining them in the light of **economic and political developments** in this country. Know whether or not the **most significant facts** in the history of the American labor movement **between 1885 and 1900** were the **decline of the Knights of Labor** and the gradual **rise** and development of the **American**

**Federation of Labor.** Know whether or not, while the Federation was **slowly** growing and its ideas and policies were taking **definite form**, other forces were at work in **direct opposition to its tendencies**. Know whether or not, **among the labor leaders** were a number of individuals who perceived a **larger significance in the movement**. (Entire article)

5. Know whether or not, during the **later stages** of the movement the **American socialists** were organized as the **Socialist Labor Party**, which was steadily though slowly **growing** from **year to year**. Know whether or not the **Homestead strike** in 1892, the **Pullman strike** in 1894 and a number of lesser strikes gave point to **what the socialists were saying**. Know whether or not the **Western Federation of Miners** developed slowly up to 1896 but **grew rapidly** from 1896 to 1900. Know whether or not the **evident connection** between the **mining corporations** and the **state and city governments**, the frequent use of the **militia** for the **suppression** of strikes and the **abuse of the injunction** forced the miners to turn their attention to **political action along socialistic lines**. Know whether or not the **IWW embraced all** the syndicalist groups of America. Know whether or not the Federation did a **great deal** to foster the **spirit of common aspiration** on the part of **all the workers**. (Entire article)
6. Know whether or not, in the **American labor movement**, as in the labor movement in **other countries**, the **socialists were active** from an early period. Know whether or not, after a **short period of growth**, the **Trade and Labor Alliance declined** in numbers. Know whether or not, facing **strong and obstinate corporations**, the miners could have **no hope of success** unless the workmen employed in and about the mines were **welded into one organization** and were ready to act **as one man**. Know whether or not at first the **western labor organizations** regarded themselves simply as **instrument** for promoting the **interests and welfare** of the **workmen of the West**. (Entire article)

#### **Material from the reading by Roscingo et al.**

1. Know whether or not, despite some **declines in recent decades**, collective response in the form of union activity and strike action **remains considerable** and **worthy of attention**. Know whether or not the **grievances** upon which collective and individual resistance strategies are founded are **ultimately forged at the point of distribution**. Know whether or not **worker resistance** can and often does take on **individualized forms**. Know whether or not **worker resistance**, particularly in its **collective form**, is patterned by **broader societal dynamics**. Know whether or not **Durkheim and Weber, respectively**, similarly noted inherent tensions associated with the **forced division of labor** and the **ever-constraining impact of bureaucratization** on workers. Know whether or not **organizational norms** specify that management is responsible for maintaining a **coherent and effective system of production** that allows employees to meet the **demands of their jobs**. Know whether or not, where **coherence and integration** are **missing**, employees may define **management as illegitimate**. Know whether or not, like **Taylor**, more contemporary social scientists have been **more critical of workplace organizational transformation** by highlighting the **consequences for workers themselves**. Know whether or not Taylor himself recognized that **resistance would occur**, but suggested that the promise of **higher material rewards** and **careful selection of employees** could mitigate any **disruptive potential**. (p. 014-017)
2. Know whether or not workers hold a **normative sense of** what constitutes **proper managerial ethics**. Know whether or not it is **unclear** whether patterns of managerial behavior and worker response uncovered in qualitative accounts of the shop floor are **due to unmeasured organizational differences**. Know whether or not the **literature on workplace organization** typically accords **causal priority** to **social dynamics** occurring on the shop floor, over **organizational structure**, or the **other way around**. Know whether or not **managerial ethics** include **good leadership**, knowledge of the **labor process**, and **fair and respectful treatment of employees**. Know whether or not one could easily see how a **high level of bureaucracy** might **decrease** the need for, or **likelihood of**, more **abusive and conflictual** manager-worker relations. (p. 017-018)
3. Know whether or not **QCA** forces the analyst to consider **all possible combinations** of causal factors and, with its comparative **algorithmic logic**, eliminates **redundant and superfluous information**. Know whether or not the **assumptions of QCA** are fundamentally the same as those of **more conventional quantitative data** that attempt to tease out the **effects of individual variables**. Know whether or not the **key question** is, what factors and/or configurations of factors **enhance or diminish** the likelihood of **strike action**. Know whether or not the **modeling** takes the **criticisms and suggestions to heart** by using QCA to generate and then logically reduce all configurations represented in the data by **including superfluous information**.

Know whether or not the authors used a **combination of QCA techniques and more conventional quantitative methods**. Know whether or not, in general, the findings suggest that **ongoing conflict** between managers and workers is **fundamental** to forging **collective resistance** (under **certain conditions**). Know whether or not **bureaucracy** is associated with an **increased likelihood of strike action**, but only in the presence of **conflict and unions**. Know whether or not, given the **configurational logic used**, no one attribute can be interpreted **outside the context** of the other **configurational attributes**. Know whether or not **worker response** to ongoing conflict on the shop floor, particular when the problem is viewed as **ongoing and systematic**, is likely to be **individual in nature**. Know whether or not **union presence** in a **conflict-laden environment** may be meaningful due to the **presence of shop stewards** and their place in addressing worker grievances **in an ongoing manner**. (p. 017-030)

4. Know whether or not **patterns for informal resistance** indicate considerable **similarity** with those pertaining to **strike prevalence**. Know whether or not workplaces characterized by **little bureaucracy, poor organization, and no collective mobilization history** are nearly **twice as likely** to experience **social sabotage, playing dumb, absenteeism, and theft**. Know whether or not **bureaucratized workplaces** characterized by conflict and the **presence of a union** experience **relatively low levels of absenteeism and work avoidance**. Know whether or not **poor organization and little bureaucracy** in and of themselves, even **without conflict**, can open the door to a **plethora** of individual resistance strategies. Know whether or not **lack of collective mobilization history** combined with **poor organization** and a **lack of systematic conflict** leads to more **collective forms of resistance**. Know whether or not **prior analyses** have been concerned largely with **individual** rather than **collective resistance strategies** that workers may use. Know whether or not each of the **three workplace typologies** hold **unique implications** for understanding and interpreting worker resistance. Know whether or not strikes are **more than four times more likely** where **conflict and union presence exist**, where **abuse and poor organization prevail**, and where **bureaucratic organization is weak**. Know whether or not one **important insight** that emerges in light of these results is that **social relations on the shop floor** in promoting both **collective and individual manifestations** of class resistance. Know whether or not the findings suggest **three types of organizations: contentious, cohesive, and chaotic**. (p. 030-035)

#### Material from the reading by Thorburn

1. Know whether or not it is an **abiding narrative** in **new social movement theory** that with the development of **modern capitalist societies** and **especially after '68**, the working class is seen to **break down** into a **multiplicity** of different and fragmented minority social groups. Know whether or not, for the **Wobblies**, the **working class** was a **relatively homogeneous and demarcated social group**, not a **plane of composition** immanent to and against the **manifold social totality** of capitalist relations of production. Know whether or not **minor politics** is a direct challenge to political models founded on the **representation of a subject or an identity**. Know whether or not the **Wobblies were a missing people** who were propelled from their **cramped experience** of the social relations of work into **considerable political and cultural invention**. Know whether or not one member of the AFL remarked that the founding convention of the IWW was "the **greatest conglomeration of freaks** that ever met in a convention." Know whether or not **modal models** are premised on the **fetishization of an already present identity** in a nurturing social environment. Know whether or not **cramped and missing as it is**, the **milieu of minor composition** on the proletarian plane is never **able to settle**, or develop into an autonomous "people" and **set of major authors**. Know whether or not **minority formations** were not an **outside**, or an **other** to the IWW's class composition, but were **immanent to it**. (p. 061-064)
2. Know whether or not, for the IWW, it was through **organizing a mass of differentially identified workers**, against their **differential identity**, on a more generalized plane as "fellow workers" that their collective response to the employers **was to be effective**. Know whether or not the **railroad brotherhoods** of the late nineteenth century were **often more backward** than even the judiciary and the mainstream Church in their **exclusion of black workers** not only from the unions, but **from jobs themselves**. Know whether or not the IWW, especially in **the South**, sought to **avoid organizing black and white workers** in the same unions. Know whether or not the working class, **however demarcated** from the **bourgeoisie**, was founded on an understanding and experience of work **across the social totality**. Know whether or not the IWW was composed of **numerous distinct groupings and craft-subdivisions**, representing an **"aristocracy" of skilled labor**. (p. 065-066)

3. Know whether or not, according to **Haywood**, the IWW was **not a political organization**, but that did not mean **it was not "political."** Know whether or not the **limited franchise** meant that the IWW's constituency was **largely excluded** from **conventional political participation**. Know whether or not, to the IWW, work was a **site of class war**, a meeting point of **two fundamentally opposed camps** that allowed no in-between space of **compromise and possible identity formation**. Know whether or not the IWW **encouraged piece-rate jobs**. Know whether or not the IWW **discounted both parliamentary politics and the vanguard party**. (p. 066-067)
  
4. Know whether or not the hobos were **simultaneously workers, outsiders, shirkers, and "hoboheimsians,"** and it was through their **anomalous positions**, on the borderlines of the new forms and relations, that **their political and cultural invention occurred**. Know whether or not, though **central to production**, the **itinerants** continued to be represented as **rather sorry, marginal and/or dangerous figures**, and were frequently **arrested as vagrants**. Know whether or not **Jack London** presented the hobo in term of **Nietzsche's overman**. Know whether or not, since the hobo **existed immanently** to the regimes of **production**, work was a **popular pastime**. Know whether or not the hobos were itinerant laborers who traveled the country for **seasonal or temporary employment**. Know whether or not **sabotage is best understood** as an **intensification of the strike**. Know whether or not **Flynn defined sabotage** as the **unconscious withdrawal** of the **worker's efficiency**. Know whether or not sabotage expressed the **minor authorial composition** of the movement, **multiplying its effects and intensity** without any **individualism or authorship**. Know whether or not, according to **Pouget**, sabotage is **present everywhere and everywhere invincible**. Know whether or not, **between 1914 and 1918** sabotage was **directly advocated** by the IWW, but the practice **extends before and after** these dates in **less formal ways**. Know whether or not we would be **wrong** to see **contemporary new social movements** as the **sole constituency** for a politics of **difference and variation**. Know whether or not, in the midst of the **social relations of work** and the **identities of craft union politics**, the **immigrant, the American and the people**, the Wobblies composed a **simultaneously diffuse and cramped working class**. Know whether or not, **cramped and interlaced with social relations**, each site of composition was to be developed only through **forming relations with other minorities** in the **class**. Know whether or not the IWW was shown to **present a rather different model** of class from that of **orthodox Marxism**. Know whether or not each **minority experience and concern** marked a particular site of **political and cultural invention and creation**. (p. 071-080)