EXERCISE: ARRANGE THESE TACTICS ON A THERMOMETER

Here’s an assortment of tactics that workers have used and loved. Pick an issue in your workplace and imagine you’re planning an escalating campaign. Use the blank thermometer, and write in the tactics you might use, beginning at the bottom with the mildest ones.

Which tactics are “hotter” might vary from one workplace to another, and some tactics will be unique to a particular workplace. Can you think of actions you might try that aren’t on this list? Place these on your thermometer, too.

- Bombard the boss with phone calls and emails
- Strike
- Put up posters
- Wear T-shirts or hats with a slogan or cartoon on a particular day
- Wear buttons or stickers
- Rally in the parking lot and enter the building at the same time
- Distribute leaflets
- Circulate a petition
- Set up a Facebook page for your campaign
- Visit the boss in a small group
- File a group grievance with signatures
- Visit the boss in a large group
- File a survey
- Barrage management with tweets and Facebook comments
- Invite a giant inflatable rat to sit outside the workplace
- All take breaks at the same time
- Make up wallet cards that define workers’ rights
- Work to rule
- Everyone gets “sick” on the same day
- Rally at company headquarters or another target
- Stop working overtime, all together
- Do a skit or other creative action at a picket line, shareholders’ meeting, or public place
- Call the boss out in front of other workers
- Write and sing a song about the boss
- Meet with outside supporters; get them to take action, too
- Spill the beans to the media
- Write and sing a song about the boss

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