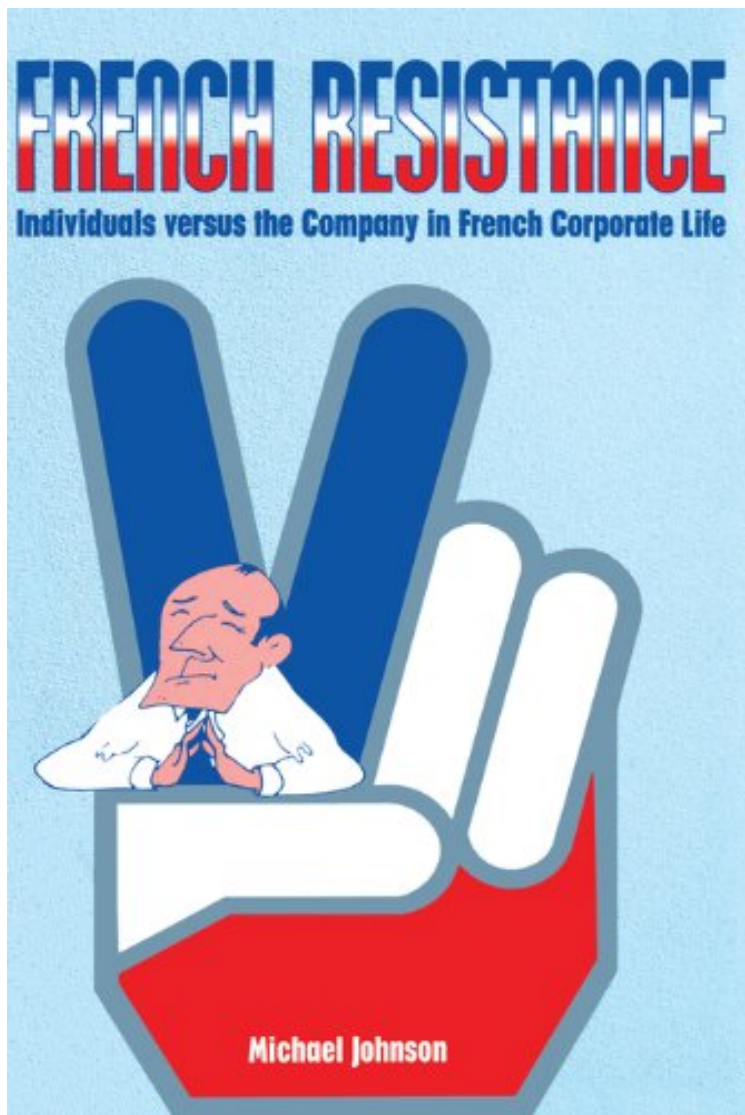


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French Resistance: Individuals Versus the Company in French Corporate Life

Michael Johnson

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Michael Johnson : French Resistance: Individuals Versus the Company in French Corporate Life before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised French Resistance: Individuals Versus the Company in French Corporate Life:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An American in Paris - old genre, great new treatment By Andrew B. Wilson Throw away Peter Mayle's "Year in Provence." Don't bother with Polly Platt's "French or Foe." Michael Johnson's "French Resistance" is the best book ever done in American-in-Paris genre. It is a wildly funny and engaging book that should appeal to francophiles and francophobes alike (as well as others who share some of both

traits). It recounts Johnson's misadventures as the American managing editor of a French magazine staffed by French men and, more particularly, women, who don't want an American boss (or any boss at all). Apart from deftness of the writing, the book's humor and charm comes from the terrific perspective that Johnson has in telling his story. Not only is he perfectly fluent in speaking French, he has lived in Paris for many years as an American foreign correspondent, married to a French woman with two daughters, raised as French. For all that, when it comes to managing the French, Johnson discovers the true depths of French Resistance to all things American.

This study examines France's determination to remain aloof and unaffected as the world economy threatens the French way of doing business. Describing the difficulty in initiating change in French organizations, the author tells of the obstacles he encountered in attempting to modernize the working practices of a Paris firm. His observations are based upon customs and habits peculiar to the French, yet they apply equally to all foreign cultures. Management methods, attitudes to the outside world, and the historic roots of the French mentality are viewed and explained anecdotally, based on the author's experience of living and working in France, and are accompanied by humorous illustrations.