

5. CANADA - MEXICO FREE TRADE (approx. 25 min.)

- A. Some people have said that Canada should form a trade agreement with Mexico. What would the reasons be for why Canada would form a trade agreement with a country like Mexico?

**PROBE FOR:**

- . a responsibility to help
- . buying products instead of giving hand-outs
- . we get no value back when giving hand-outs to poorer countries
- . trading to improve their standards
- . etc.

- B. What should the reasons be for Canada not forming a trade agreement with a country like Mexico?

**PROBE FOR:**

- . job loss
- . exploitation
- . environment, health and safety standards in the workplace

- C. [NOTE TO MODERATOR: Now read the following question and find out (count) where people stand on the two opposing views.]

Some people say that Canada should give wider access to exports of countries like Mexico so they can develop their standard of living. Other people think that Canada should restrict imports from countries like Mexico to protect the jobs of Canadian workers but instead give direct aid to these countries so they improve their standard of living. Who do you tend more to agree with?

- D. If Canada were to form a trade alliance with Mexico, what should be the key conditions for such an agreement?

[NOTE TO MODERATOR: Get the participants to problem solve.]

**PROBE FOR:**

- . environment
- . plant closures
- . labour codes
- . minimum wages
- . etc.

- E. Should Canada try to negotiate a bilateral trade agreement with Mexico? Why? Why not?

[NOTE TO MODERATOR: Very brief/once around the table]