

were expressed that the U.S.A. power as it currently exists would only be reinforced with Canada joining Mexico in a North American trading block -- "the stronger always get stronger". Some more positive participants felt that "if you can't beat them, join them". These participants felt that it would be important for Canada to join in the trade agreement with the U.S. and Mexico to allow Canada to share its knowledge and resources, for Canada to strive for and raise its potential and to specialize in niches or special products (the example of French champagne which is sold world-wide was mentioned).

The more negative supporters of Free Trade in Toronto showed the strongest concern over joining with the U.S. in trade negotiations with Mexico. This group felt that a trade agreement should be secured without the U.S. These participants felt that it would be to Mexico's advantage to "direct the two powers and deal with each individually". Some of these Toronto participants felt that Mexico would possibly benefit more than Canada because "Mexico's economy can only get better". They felt that Canada would not necessarily be exploiting the Mexicans. However, others in the group felt that such a trade deal would mean exploitation for Mexico and that instead, Canada should be focusing its efforts on educating Mexicans to become more self-sufficient. There was a very strong sense that Canada would be taking advantage of the cheaper labour force in Mexico and then making Mexicans buy these new goods. One participant said, "This is just the modern form of colonization. If someone wins, someone loses. It's a zero sum". Others disagreed with that statement and felt that there are profits to be made everywhere.

For these more negative supporters of Free Trade, the short term would bring losses -- that is, loss of industry to the U.S. and Mexico and loss of jobs for Canadians (because of the cheaper