

V. THEMATIC ANALYSIS

The foregoing analysis establishes the skeletal outline of free trade support in Canada in July of 1986. What it does not address is the question of why Canadians adopt the positions that they do. The object here is to capture what concerns the free trade opponent or proponent. Respondents were presented with a number of issue propositions in order to partially determine what drives the formation of their views on free trade. The following table ranks the issues in order of consensus.

Table 16

ISSUE STATEMENT	JULY 1986	NET CHANGE SINCE APRIL 1986	PERCENT AGREE
	$\bar{X}$		
Americans, while they may like us, don't do us any special favours when it comes to trade and economics.	2.23	+.24	75
Canada must maintain entirely independent social, cultural, and foreign policies even if they lead to problems in our economic and trade relations with the United States.			
There may be economic dislocations and short-term problems if Canada enters into free trade arrangements, but we will have to have free trade in order to ensure that there will be more jobs in the future.	1.15	+.05	61
Even if it costs consumers a lot more to remain distinctly Canadian, that's a price I'm willing to pay.	1.00	N/A	60
If Canada appears to be too friendly with the United States, the Americans will take advantage of us.	.99	+.45	60
Unless we can manage a free trade agreement with the United States, then the Americans are going to place more and more tariffs on Canadian goods and we will lose our markets.	.91	N/A	57