

## B. U.S. Investment

A mixture of views was again evident regarding the issue of U.S. investment. Those who said they were concerned about U.S. investment confirmed the findings of the June nation-wide survey by pointing to fears about increased American control and its possible effect on Canadian sovereignty and ability to make our own decisions. Typical of the statements made are the following: "If we give too much control, they may take over," "I wouldn't want the Americans to take over," and "We'd begin to hate the Americans because we'd have no say." Others were less concerned with U.S. influence, either because they recognized that there was considerable influence already or because of the benefits which they saw as resulting from U.S. investment.

On the question of the trade off between jobs and influence, the group discussions taken as a whole convey a feeling that there are no absolute answers on this question. Many wondered how the control could be defined, quantified, or understood. Other questions raised were, "How much control do we give them?" and "How much influence is too much?" Canadians consulted through the focus groups appear to look at the question of the trade off between jobs and increased U.S. influence as a question or matter of degree, rather than as an absolute choice or trade off.

The June survey results show that 59% of Canadians feel that jobs are more important than limiting American influence. Consistent with this, a slight majority of group participants overall seemed to hold this view as well, pointing to the tangible benefits of increased jobs associated with American investment. While concerned about U.S. influence, they would, however, "rather have someone from the U.S. with money to invest, thus creating jobs for us, than to go on unemployment."

Nevertheless, there was a consensus among both those saying they were more concerned about limiting influence and those feeling that jobs are more important, that there was a need for some controls or restrictions on U.S. investment. This sentiment was expressed by participants in all groups.