

GLOBALIZATION

WHO'S WINNING AND WHO'S LOSING?

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

THE WORLD'S GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS LEADERS ARE DECIDING OUR FUTURE BEHIND CLOSED DOORS AGAIN — WAY BEHIND THAT SECURITY FENCE.

LABOUR RIGHTS

WHY'S EVERYONE SO UPSET?

THEY'RE WORRIED ABOUT GLOBALIZATION

PEOPLE SHOULD GET WITH THE MODERN WORLD. I'VE HEARD GLOBALIZATION IS A GOOD THING.

DEPENDS ON WHAT SIDE OF THE FENCE YOU'RE ON.

There's been a lot of talk about "globalization" in recent years. Powerful business and government leaders are pushing it. They say it's necessary — that it's good for the whole world.

MEANWHILE... millions of people worldwide — ordinary folks like you and me — are worried. Good-paying, unionized, manufacturing jobs are disappearing in some countries, while non-unionized low-wage jobs are growing in others. The gap between rich and poor is

widening, with more billionaires and more homeless and hungry people every day. The middle class is disappearing in many countries. Public education and health care and our social and income security programs are being de-funded, and privatized. There are fewer regulations to safeguard air and drinking water or forests and farmlands. Young people see no future for themselves or the planet. So people are in the streets by the thousands to say NO to globalization.

GLOBALIZATION IS BRINGING JOBS AND PROSPERITY FOR MORE AND MORE PEOPLE.

IT WILL LIFT MILLIONS OUT OF POVERTY.

IT'S INEVITABLE, SO YOU ALL HAD BETTER JUST ACCEPT IT.

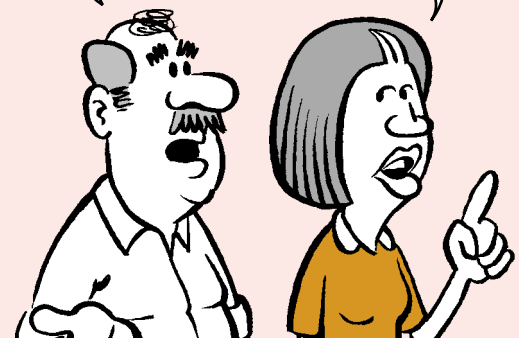
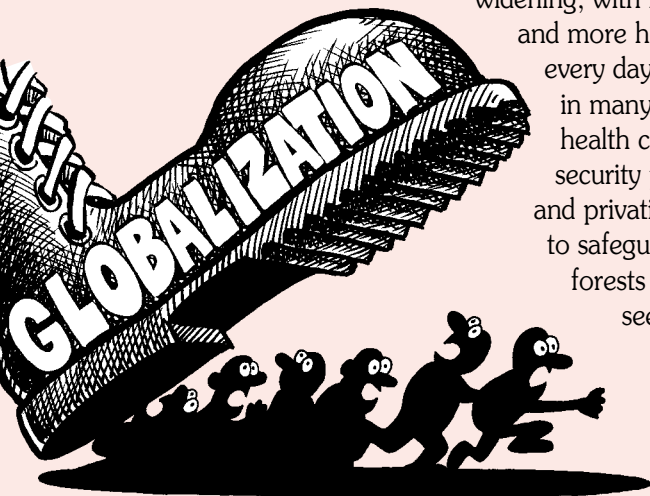
GOVERNMENT

BIG BUSINESS

CORPORATE MEDIA

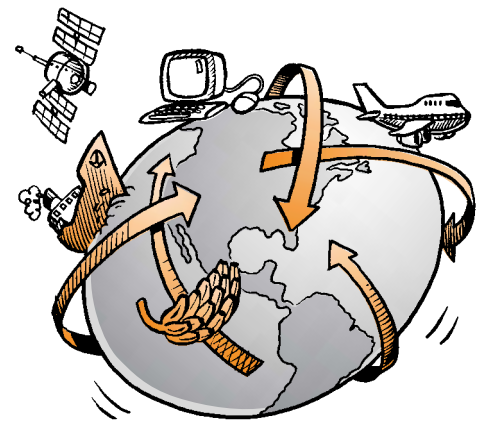
C'MON, CAN GLOBALIZATION REALLY BE THAT BAD? I'M SURE OUR LEADERS KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR US.

GLOBALIZATION IS DEFINITELY GOOD FOR SOME, BUT I'M NOT SO SURE IT'S GOOD FOR US WORKING PEOPLE. LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT GLOBALIZATION...



WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION?

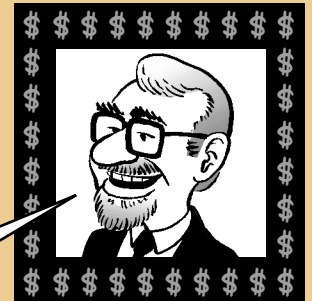
In some ways, globalization has been with us ever since the first explorers set off in search of new lands and trade routes. Trading with other countries in natural resources and consumer goods has helped make Canada a strong industrial nation. Today, with computers, satellites, and the internet, the planet is becoming more and more interconnected.



THE PROBLEM IS...

Corporations use these new technologies to increase their bargaining power over workers, communities and governments. Big business uses this new-found power to impose global **rules** that will guarantee its **rights**, now and in the future.

"I WOULD DEFINE GLOBALIZATION AS THE FREEDOM FOR MY GROUP OF COMPANIES TO INVEST **WHERE** IT WANTS, **WHEN** IT WANTS, TO PRODUCE **WHAT** IT WANTS, TO BUY AND SELL **WHERE** IT WANTS, AND SUPPORT THE **FEWEST** RESTRICTIONS POSSIBLE COMING FROM LABOUR LAWS AND SOCIAL CONVENTIONS."



Percy Barnevik
President, ABB Industrial Group
(a multinational corporation
operating in over 100 countries)

"CORPORATE GLOBALIZATION"

HERE'S A GLIMPSE
OF THE UGLY WORLD CREATED
BY CORPORATE GLOBALIZATION.

THAT IS
UGLY.

Under corporate globalization,
corporate profits come first....

...before human rights and
basic needs...

...before our labour rights, and
our right to a living wage...

...before our right to a clean,
healthy environment...



...before our right to good public
services like health care...

...before our democratic rights
to decide what we want...





HAIL THE "FREE MARKET"

Many business and government leaders today believe we should let business make profits without interference from government rules and regulations. They believe that if business is free to make profits in any way it wants, the "free market" will magically take care of everybody's needs by producing what people will pay for.



SOME USEFUL TERMS

Today, we call people with these ideas...
NEO-LIBERALS

The really nutty ones we call...
FREE MARKET FANATICS

And often we call their ideas...
THE NEO-LIBERAL AGENDA

And sometimes we call it...
TRICKLE-DOWN ECONOMICS



What governments do...

...they provide important public services to make sure all citizens have access to certain basic needs - things like health care, water testing, education, mail, public pensions, just to name a few.



...they set rules in many different industries. These rules do everything from protecting people's jobs, to making sure local businesses can survive against foreign competition, to protecting the environment and people's health.



...they set rules about their country's money, like who can take it out of the country, when and how much at one time. One thing these rules do is make sure wealthy investors can't suck all the money out of a country's economy overnight, leaving its people in ruins.



...they make labour laws that ensure workers have certain minimum rights. The right to work in a safe workplace, the right to take time off, the right not to be abused, the right to a minimum wage, and the right to join a union and bargain collectively for wages, benefits and working conditions.



What neo-liberals want...

...they want to privatize public services



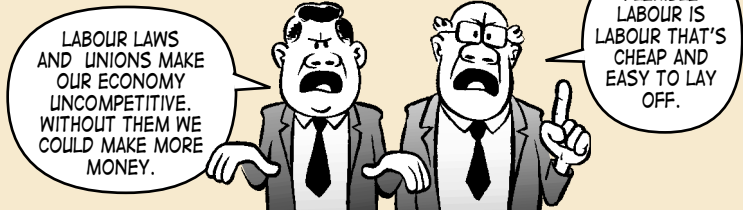
...they want to deregulate all industries



...they want to deregulate financial markets



...they want to make labour more "flexible"





HOW WE GOT HERE... A QUICK HISTORY LESSON

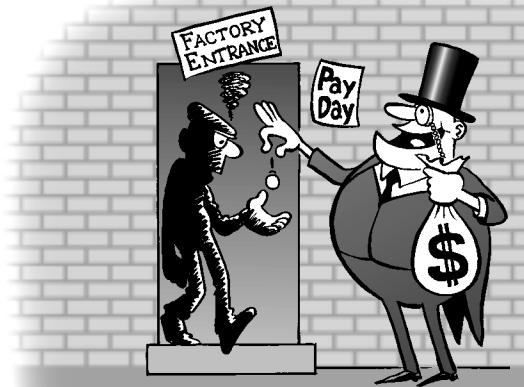
1900

LIFE FOR MOST WAS JUST PLAIN UGLY

A century ago, capitalism was uncontrolled, unregulated, and just plain ugly for most people. Corporations were all powerful, and workers lived in terrible economic and social insecurity. There was no health care, no unemployment insurance, no pensions, no workplace safety standards — nothing. The view of the ruling class was that governments should stay out of the “free market”. If the economy crashed, and people became unemployed — well, too bad. Unemployment was something “natural”, and all that governments had to do was wait for the economy to get going by itself.



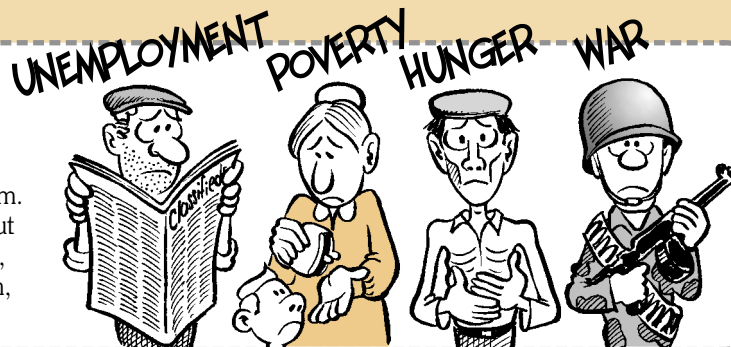
THE NEO-LIBERAL WORLD BEING CREATED BY BUSINESS ELITES TODAY IS STARTING TO LOOK LIKE THE WAY THINGS WERE A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.



1930 TO 1940

THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Then, in 1929, the economy did crash — big time. Poorly regulated stock markets crashed. Banks failed, taking people's savings with them. Companies went bankrupt, leaving millions out of work. The misery and poverty were so bad, that this led to social and political breakdown, and even contributed to a world war.



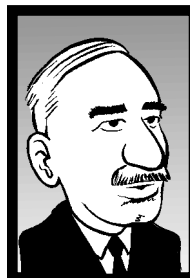
SOMETHING MORE THAN “LEAVE IT UP TO THE MARKET” WAS NEEDED HERE.



ACCORDING TO KEYNES, GOVERNMENTS HAD TO GET OFF THEIR BUTTS AND ACTIVELY PROMOTE **FULL EMPLOYMENT**.

ALONG COMES KEYNES WITH SOME BRIGHT NEW IDEAS

In the 1930s, economist John Maynard Keynes came up with a new economic idea. Governments didn't have to sit around and wait for a sick economy to get better. They could **do something concrete** to help it recover. **Keynesian Economics** was born.



GOVERNMENTS CAN STIMULATE THE OVERALL DEMAND FOR GOODS AND SERVICES BY USING THEIR ABILITY TO **TAX AND SPEND**.

← **FISCAL POLICY**

GOVERNMENTS CAN LOWER THE **INTEREST RATE** TO HELP THE ECONOMY GROW.

← **MONETARY POLICY**



MEANWHILE, WORKERS WERE FED UP WITH POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT. THEY ORGANIZED INTO UNIONS AND FOUGHT FOR IMPROVEMENTS.

WE OWE SO MUCH TO THEIR COURAGE.



LABOUR TURNS UP THE HEAT

Unions and other groups began fighting for improvements in work and social conditions. With massive strikes, protests and social unrest, bit by bit they pressured governments to make big changes.



1940 TO 1970

GOVERNMENT

BIG BUSINESS



Taxes

Social programs, income security, labour laws and rights

Skilled labour, consumer market

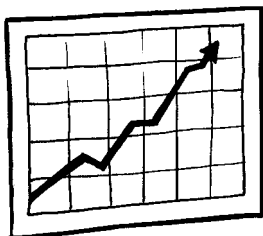
Well-paying jobs with good benefits



WORKERS

30 YEARS

of economic growth and improvements in living standards!!



THE GREAT POSTWAR CONSENSUS

With the war over and Keynes' ideas catching on around the world, things started getting better in many countries. Workers in industrialized countries like Canada saw **thirty years of growth and improvements in living standards**. Workers shared in the prosperity.

Business leaders didn't really like the idea of governments managing economies for full employment. But they went along with it. After all, well-paid workers became paying customers for their products. Also, they feared that if life under capitalism was too ugly for most people, the protests and social unrest of the Depression years would come back.

So with business, government and workers more or less working together to improve life, we had consensus — the great "Postwar Consensus."

NEW INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HELP WITH THE CONSENSUS

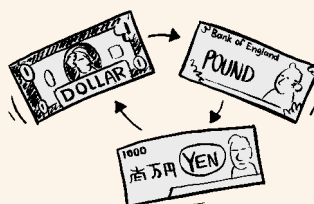
Keeping with Keynes' ideas, governments created the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in 1944 to prevent the return of worldwide economic depression like the one that gripped the 1930s.



IMF The IMF originally had two major roles — one was to ensure that exchange rates and money trading between countries remained stable. The other was to lend money to countries with high trade deficits. This was intended to keep all economies growing.

WORLD BANK

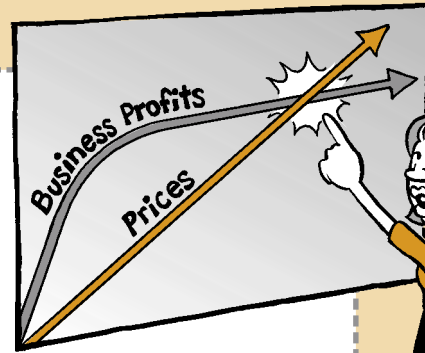
The World Bank's role was to make loans to rebuild war-torn countries. Eventually it moved into lending money to developing countries to help them build their infrastructure such as roads, water systems and education.



1970s

THE CONSENSUS GETS INTO TROUBLE

Things started to turn sour in the 1970s. **Prices** began to rise for a number of reasons. One was the Vietnam war. It cost the US billions, and they printed money to pay for it. Also, in 1973 the oil-producing countries suddenly raised the price of oil. Workers demanded better wages so they could keep up with rising prices. The cost of living was rising fast but the economy was slowing down at the same time. The profits of big business were falling, and they didn't like it.



RISING PRICES PLUS ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN LEAD SOME TO QUESTION KEYNES' THEORY

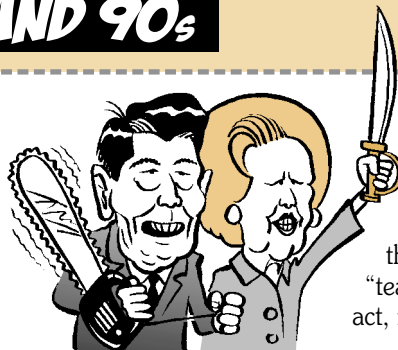
BIG BUSINESS DECLARES WAR!

Bosses decided the time had come to make big changes. They blamed government programs, regulations and full employment for the situation. They also blamed "greedy" unionized workers who dared to bargain for better wages. Big business wanted to get their profits back. Their solution? Get rid of government rules and regulations, get rid of social programs, and get rid of unions. It was time to "set the market free." Neo-liberalism was born.



1980s AND 90s

HEY, I REMEMBER THESE BUMS. THEY WERE PRETTY BRUTAL TO WORKERS AND POOR PEOPLE



CONSERVATIVES LEAD THE ATTACK

The British and US governments, under Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan, were the first to openly push for this kind of pro-business program. They weakened their labour laws and viciously attacked unions in order to "teach them a lesson". Other countries started getting in on the act, including Canada under Brian Mulroney.

IN THE INTEREST OF SQUASHING LABOUR...

Then, governments began raising interest rates sky-high. They said it was to try to lower inflation. But guess what? It also caused mass unemployment! With so many people out of work and desperate for any job, workers were willing to earn less and accept poor working conditions.

HEY! COULD YOU PLEASE LOWER THAT? CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'RE CAUSING A RECESSION?

SORRY FOLKS, BUT WE MUST GET INFLATION UNDER CONTROL

NOT TO MENTION DEPRESS THE COST OF LABOUR AND SQUASH THE POWER OF UNIONS.

Interest Rate

SO THEY DELIBERATELY CAUSED UNEMPLOYMENT TO TAKE THE WIND OUT OF LABOUR'S SAIL?

PRETTY NASTY, EH?



WHY HIGH INTEREST RATES CAUSE UNEMPLOYMENT

When interest rates go up, the economy slows down. This is because it becomes more expensive to borrow money. Businesses and individuals stop investing in production. Businesses lose money and begin to lay off workers.

THE WAR ON THE DEFICIT WAS A WAR ON THE POOR AND WORKING CLASSES.



HIGH DEBTS AND DEFICITS: CREATING THE PERFECT CRISIS

Not only did high interest rates cause unemployment, they also did something else. They caused many countries' national **debts and deficits to grow out of control**. But this was perfect for neo-liberals. All they had to do was scare people into believing they were spending too much on health care, education, unemployment insurance, income security, social programs and environmental protection. Then the neo-liberals could do all the cutting and slashing they wanted — and get away with it! The cuts were deep and brutal.

IT'S A CRISIS!! IF WE DON'T CUT NOW, YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE PAYING FOR YOUR LAVISH SOCIAL PROGRAMS!!



OH MY GOD! CUT, CUT!!



NEO-LIBERALISM REACHES SOUTH

High interest rates also created chaos in the developing countries. When interest rates were low, northern banks and investors had urged developing governments and private business in the south to take out loans. When interest rates sky-rocketed in the early 1980s their debts also sky-rocketed. Many poor-country governments were going bankrupt and threatened non-payment of their loans.

Now in their new role as global bullies, in stepped the IMF and World Bank, pressuring poor countries to keep up their debt payments. This kept money flowing into the pockets of their buddies at the banks and on Wall Street — the same ones who had made bad loan decisions in the first place.

The IMF and World Bank offered help on debt repayment — but with conditions. Countries had to make corporate-friendly changes to their economies. They called it “**structural adjustment**.” But these and other changes pushed millions of people deeper into poverty. What little access they had to health care, education, public services, jobs and income security was wiped out for most people. Poor countries became so desperate for foreign investment they were now ideal targets for transnational companies to do business.

Today, developing countries have repaid far more just in interest than they ever borrowed. And each year, far more money flows from poor countries to rich countries than the other way around.



RIGHT AROUND THIS TIME THE IMF AND THE WORLD BANK TURNED INTO SERIOUSLY NASTY CHARACTERS.... **THUGS**, ENFORCING NEO-LIBERAL POLICIES ON THE SOUTH.

STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT

- privatize your state companies, utilities and public services
- deregulate the movement of money across your borders
- make deep cuts to health care, education, and public pensions
- remove subsidies that help poor farmers
- weaken labour laws and protections
- stop protecting local industries — get rid of trade tariffs
- forget staple foods for people to eat, produce more cash crops for the world market

IF YOU WANT HELP WITH YOUR DEBTS, HERE'S WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO...



BUT THAT'S GOING TO DRIVE MILLIONS OF OUR PEOPLE FURTHER INTO POVERTY!

DO IT!!

CURRENCY SPECULATION... A GAME THAT RUINS WHOLE ECONOMIES

Countries around the world have always kept strict rules about the movement of money into and out of their borders. But in the early 1980s neo-liberals began weakening the laws that regulated **financial markets**. This helped reduce the costs of doing business around the world, which was good. But it also opened the door to a new and dangerous business: **currency speculation**. Currency speculation is a game played by wealthy investors around the world (see right). It can cause serious damage to a country's economy. Remember the sudden financial crises that hit Mexico in 1994, Asia in 1997, and Brazil in 1999? Millions lost their jobs and their savings and were driven into poverty.

Financial Crisis



WHAT IS CURRENCY SPECULATION?

With the stroke of a computer key, investors and traders quickly buy and sell huge sums of foreign currency from different markets. By taking advantage of small changes in interest rates, they can make millions in profits literally in seconds. Today, financial institutions make about 1.5 trillion dollars every day around the world, just by playing this deadly game!!



WADDA-YA THINK, DUMP THE PESO?

YEAH, DUMP IT FAST, EVERYONE ELSE IS.

FREE TRADE: THE RACE TO THE BOTTOM BEGINS

Some countries began negotiating “free trade” agreements. The idea was to get rid of taxes and tariffs on goods crossing borders. This meant that companies could pick up and move production of these goods to countries within the “free trade area” with the lowest costs — the lowest wages, the worst labour laws, the lousiest social programs, the slackest environmental rules, and the weakest unions.

At the same time, the IMF and World Bank were ordering poorer countries to open up their economies. They told these governments to use their “comparative advantage” to compete for badly-needed investment. Many countries began setting up Free Trade Zones (also called Export Processing Zones, or EPZs or “Maquiladoras”). These are special areas where foreign corporations can operate factories

outside the laws of the country. They’re exempt from most taxes. They can pollute the air, land and water. They can hire and fire workers at will and pay very low wages. The workers — usually young women

— work long hours, often in dangerous or unhealthy conditions. If they try to organize unions, they get harassed or fired. This was too good an offer to pass up. Many transnational companies moved their factories to the EPZs getting rid of high-paying, unionized, manufacturing jobs at home while creating sweatshop jobs overseas.

When companies start moving away from places with good standards, it puts pressure on those countries to **lower their high standards to compete.** It becomes a “race to the bottom”.

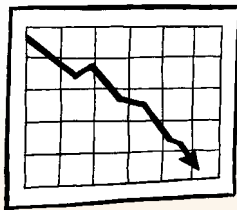


SO HOW DOES THE WORLD LOOK TODAY?

After twenty years of neo-liberal economic policies — doing things big business’ way — is the world better off? Do we have more jobs? Better economic growth? More equality? The answer is: **“NO!”**

ECONOMIC GROWTH RATES HAVE DECLINED!

After 1980, the global economy* has grown at half the rate it did under the “Postwar Consensus”.



* GDP per capita



GLOBAL UNEMPLOYMENT IS HIGHER!

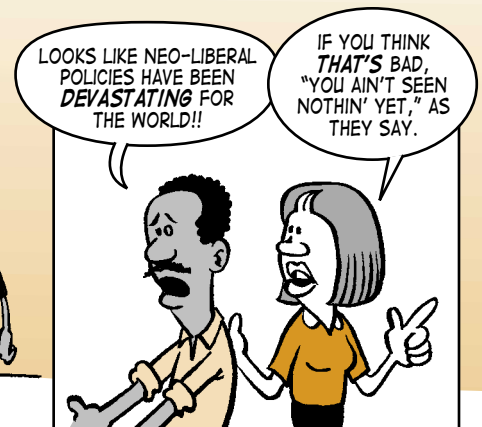
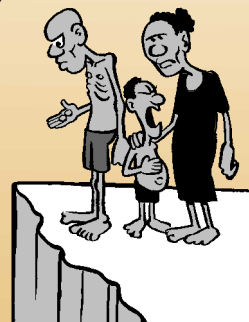
In virtually every country, the unemployment rate has been higher than before.

THE INCOME GAP IS WIDER THAN EVER — AND GROWING!

Over 550 million workers and their families around the world are living in poverty, on less than one US dollar a day! One fifth of the world’s population controls 90% of the

world’s wealth. The impacts have been hardest on people in developing countries, where poverty and inequality have grown massively.

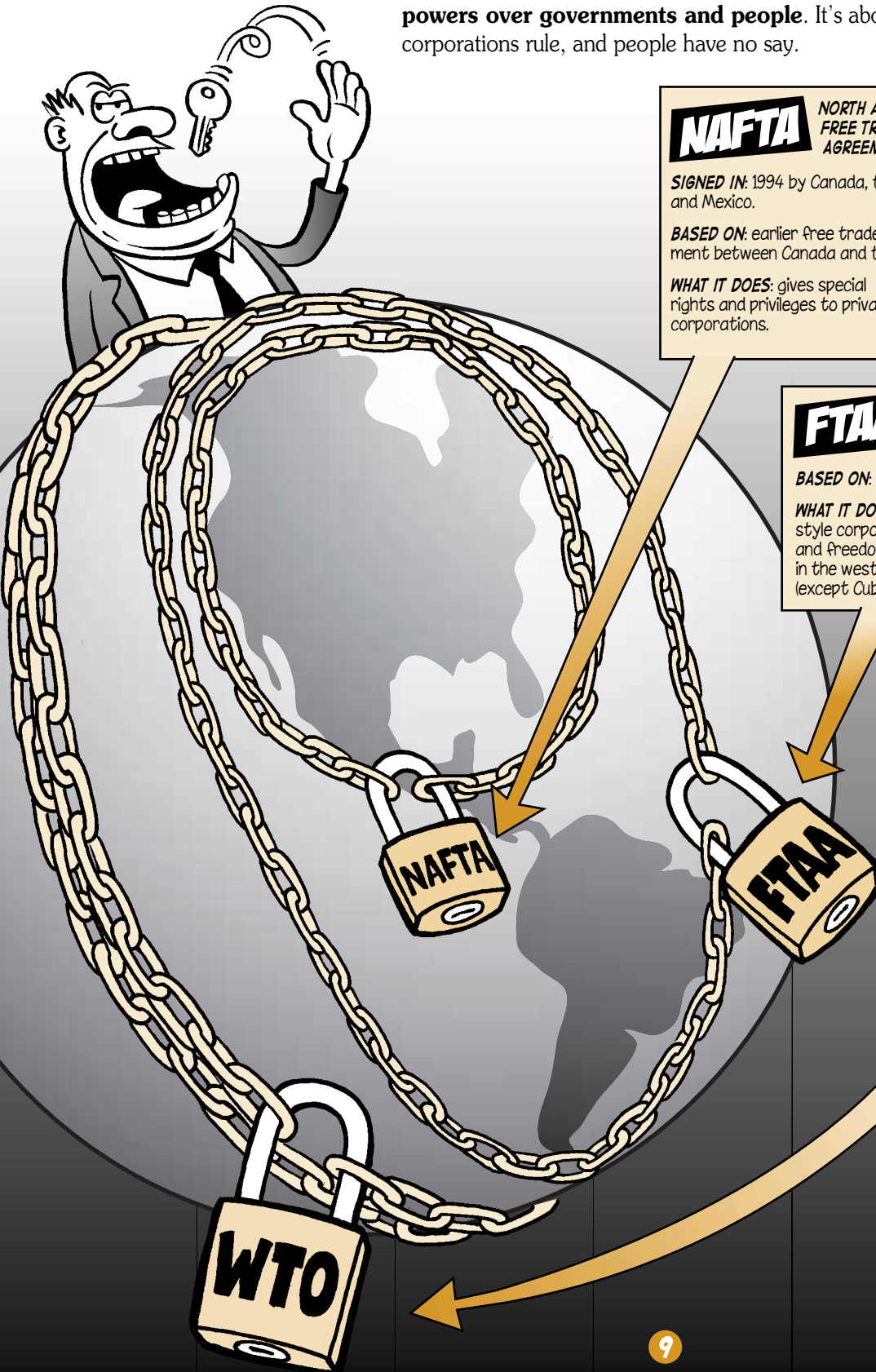
Women are the worst hit — they’re more economically vulnerable than men!





THE NEW "FREE TRADE" AGREEMENTS.... TRYING TO LOCK US IN FOREVER!

Before the 1990s, trade agreements were about getting rid of barriers, like tariffs and quotas, that discouraged countries from selling goods to one another. But today, "free trade" agreements are going way beyond that. It's not just about trade any more. It's about setting global rules that give transnational corporations new **rights and privileges and powers over governments and people**. It's about locking us in forever to a world where corporations rule, and people have no say.



NAFTA

NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

SIGNED IN: 1994 by Canada, the US and Mexico.

BASED ON: earlier free trade agreement between Canada and the US.

WHAT IT DOES: gives special rights and privileges to private corporations.

EXAMPLES: opens the door for US companies to control Canada's natural resources, like fresh water. Forces indigenous people in Mexico to allow foreign corporations to buy up their land. Allows US grain farmers to sell cheap corn in Mexico and put millions of small farmers out of business.

THE MOST SHOCKING THING: allows foreign corporations to sue governments if they feel that a government is in any way restricting their ability to make profits!

FTAA

FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS

BASED ON: NAFTA.

WHAT IT DOES: extends NAFTA-style corporate privileges and freedoms to all countries in the western hemisphere (except Cuba).

THE MOST SHOCKING THING: Trade negotiators want it to go much further than NAFTA. They want to give corporations the right to own and run public services in all countries. This includes health care, education, water, mail, transportation, energy and much much more!!

WTO

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

BEGAN IN: 1995, (today it covers 146 member countries around the world).

BASED ON: an older organization called GATT (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

WHAT IT DOES: provides a set of rules that say all the new things corporations can do, and all the things governments can no longer do. Makes decisions about which

governments are behaving "illegally" under these rules.

THE MOST SHOCKING THING: A panel of unelected trade "experts" makes the decisions. They can order elected governments to change their economic and social policies in favour of transnational corporations or face stiff trade sanctions.

HOW WILL ALL THIS
AFFECT ME AND MY
COMMUNITY?

IN MANY
WAYS.
LET'S LOOK
AT A FEW
OF THEM...



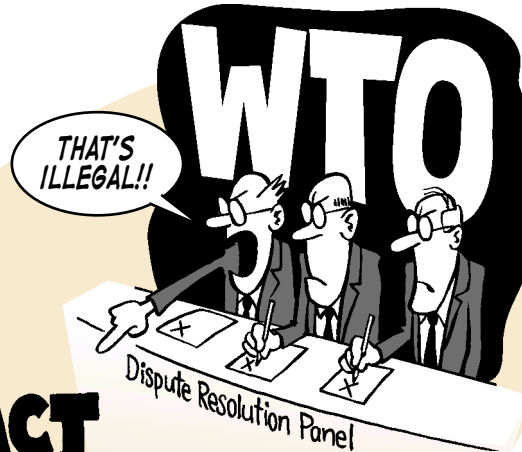
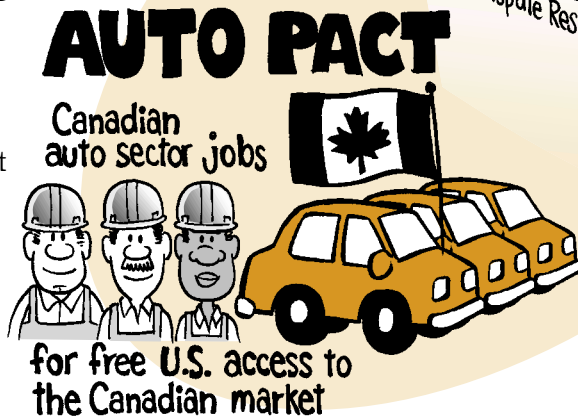
HOW "FREE TRADE" AGREEMENTS AFFECT US

1. THEY TELL GOVERNMENTS WHAT THEY CAN AND CAN'T DO IN THEIR OWN ECONOMIES

We used to be able to put conditions on foreign companies operating here. We could make sure that their activities **benefitted** the Canadian economy, and that Canadian workers got some decent jobs out of the deal. But more and more, under the rules of "free trade," these kinds of economic strategies are **not allowed on pain of trade sanctions**.

EXAMPLE → THE WTO KILLED THE AUTO PACT — AND FUTURE CANADIAN JOBS!

In 1965 we signed the Auto Pact with the US. It allowed US automakers free access to the Canadian market (that meant they could sell their vehicles here without paying tariffs). In return for this free access, they had to produce a **fair share** of their vehicles **in Canada**. Thanks to that treaty, Canada's auto industry boomed, creating tens of thousands of high-wage jobs. It helped make Canada's auto industry the most successful in the world.



But in 2001, the WTO ruled that it was no longer legal under free trade rules for Canada to put conditions on free access to our auto market. They ordered Canada to kill the Auto Pact! Now big US automakers could close Canadian plants at any time, throwing thousands out of work!!

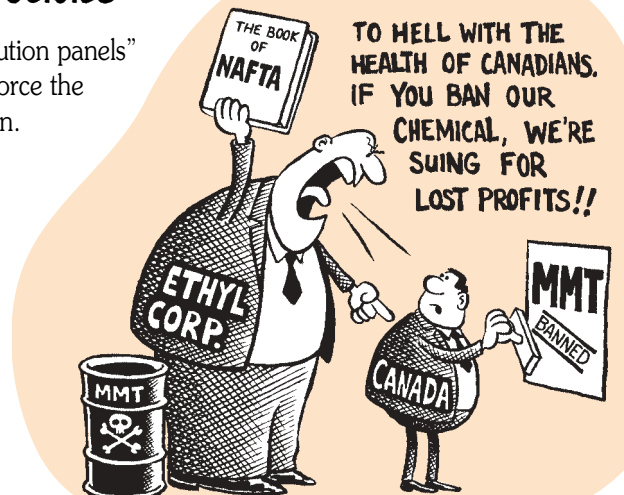


2. THEY PROVIDE A WAY FOR CORPORATIONS TO CHALLENGE AND CHANGE A COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICIES

Corporations can now complain about a country's policies at "dispute resolution panels" set up under free trade agreements. If they win their case, a company can force the country to change its laws, or have the country pay millions in compensation.

EXAMPLE → NAFTA PUT CORPORATE PROFITS BEFORE CANADIANS' HEALTH!!

In 1997, to protect the health of Canadians, our government banned imports of a toxic chemical called MMT. Ethyl Corporation, the U.S. chemical giant which makes MMT, used NAFTA to sue the Canadian government for \$250 million for lost profits. Our government backed down: **they removed the ban, and paid Ethyl \$19 million!**





WE ELECT A GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT US AND SOME TWO-BIT FOREIGN CORPORATION CAN SUE US FOR IT???

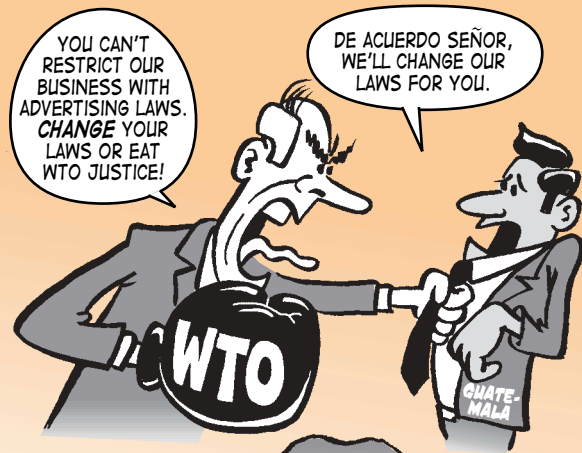
AND THEN WE AS TAX PAYERS HAVE TO SHELL OUT MILLIONS FOR THEIR GREED??

I THINK YOU GUYS ARE FINALLY STARTING TO GET THE PICTURE.

HERE'S ANOTHER SHOCKING EXAMPLE, THIS TIME FROM DOWN SOUTH...

YOU CAN'T RESTRICT OUR BUSINESS WITH ADVERTISING LAWS. **CHANGE** YOUR LAWS OR EAT WTO TO JUSTICE!

DE ACUERDO SEÑOR, WE'LL CHANGE OUR LAWS FOR YOU.



EXAMPLE

THE WTO PUT CORPORATE PROFITS BEFORE THE HEALTH OF GUATEMALAN BABIES!!

Transnational food giants like Nestlé or Gerber have long used unethical marketing practices to promote sales of baby formula in Third World countries. International organizations like UNICEF have pushed companies to remove images of chubby, healthy babies from their advertising. Until recently, Guatemala had a law prohibiting such advertising. But Gerber, backed by the U.S. government, threatened to take Guatemala to the WTO. Guatemala backed down. They got rid of their law, and Gerber continues its unethical advertising!



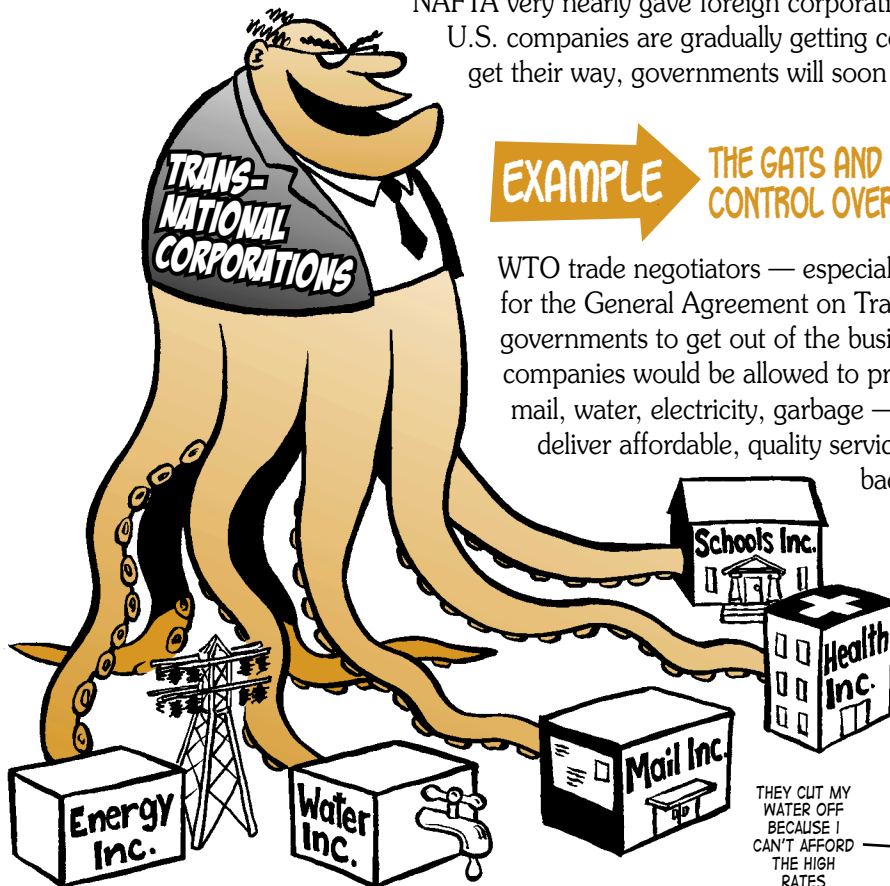
3. THEY FORCE GOVERNMENTS TO OPEN UP NEW AREAS SO CORPORATIONS CAN MAKE BIG PROFITS WHERE THEY NEVER COULD BEFORE

NAFTA very nearly gave foreign corporations the right to buy up Canada's fresh water supply. U.S. companies are gradually getting control of Canada's energy supply. If trade negotiators, get their way, governments will soon give everything over to corporate control.

EXAMPLE

THE GATS AND FTAA WILL GIVE CORPORATIONS CONTROL OVER PUBLIC SERVICES.

WTO trade negotiators — especially from Canada and the US — have been pushing for the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). This agreement will pressure governments to get out of the business of providing public services to citizens. Private companies would be allowed to provide all services **for profit!** Health care, education, mail, water, electricity, garbage — you name it. What's worse, if privatization fails to deliver affordable, quality services, the GATS will make it very difficult to get services back into public hands.



WE'VE GOT ANOTHER BLACKOUT DUE TO POOR MAINTENANCE

THEY CUT MAIL SERVICE TO MY REMOTE COMMUNITY!

I CAN'T AFFORD MY CANCER TREATMENT

THEY CUT MY WATER OFF BECAUSE I CAN'T AFFORD THE HIGH RATES

ALRIGHT, **THAT'S IT!** I'M NOT GOING TO STAND BY AND LET CORPORATE GLOBALIZATION TRAMPLE ON OUR JOBS, OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR HUMAN AND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS!!

ON THE OTHER HAND, WHAT CAN I DO?

LOTS, BUT WE MUST ACT FAST...



ACTION FOR CHANGE!

1. GET YOUR UNION TO JOIN THE GLOBAL RESISTANCE!

The corporate elite won't give up what they've taken from us without a fight. We've got good momentum going, and they're feeling the heat! It's important to keep up the pressure. Make sure you keep informed about upcoming actions in your area.

2. HELP BUILD AN ALTERNATIVE GLOBAL ECONOMY!

Acting locally is vital, but we also need to challenge the threat of corporate globalization on a global scale. Already trade unionists from around the world have started working together with allies in the social movements. They're pushing forward an alternative global economic agenda. Find out what your union is doing and get involved!

ALTERNATIVE GLOBAL AGENDA

- Full-employment with jobs that provide dignity and a living wage
- Respect for basic human and labour rights before corporate profits
- Universal access to essential services such as health, education, water and sanitation
- Safety nets to help those experiencing hardships
- Ecologically sustainable growth (that means growth that won't kill the planet like we're doing now)
- A better deal for billions of poor people in the global South

3. PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS!

If we don't buy their stuff, their system will collapse. Let's send a message to transnational corporations: "consumers won't support violations of human, labour and environmental rights." Where do we start? Why not with the clothes we wear? Join the No Sweat Campaign to ensure that the clothes and uniforms you are wearing are not made by sweatshop labour. Check these sites: www.clc-ctc.ca
www.maquiladorasolidarity.org



Written, illustrated & designed by Tony Biddle in collaboration with the Canadian Labour Congress

For more information: www.clc-ctc.ca
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Thanks to the Canadian Auto Workers for selected graphics and text reprinted from *What's all the fuss about? Globalization and the WTO: what you need to know* (also by Tony Biddle).
For information on Tony's illustrated educational materials visit www.perfectworldproductions.com



Canadian Labour Congress

Congrès du travail du Canada

THEY TELL US THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE SO WE WON'T RESIST, BUT WE KNOW WE CAN BUILD A BETTER FUTURE THAT FOCUSES ON PEOPLE, NOT PROFITS

UH-OH, I THINK THOSE PEOPLE ARE ONTO US.



CAN WORLD-WIDE PROTEST WORK? YES!! TOGETHER WE STOPPED THE MAI!

Back in the late 90s corporate globalizers were negotiating a secret deal called the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI). It was a shocking list of new rights for corporations, and a big blow to the democratic rights of people. When word of the deal got out, civil society and labour organizations spread the news around the world and organized anti-MAI protests — both in the streets and on the web. In the face of strong global opposition, countries began backing out, and the deal fell apart!!



4. PRESSURE CANADA'S FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO STOP ADVANCING CORPORATE GLOBALIZATION!

Write letters to MPs. Vote for candidates who support alternatives to corporate globalization. We can force



our government to STOP helping create a global constitution of rights for corporations. Remember, institutions like the WTO are incredibly powerful, but they can only exist and exercise their power if governments like ours continue to play the game.

5. GET ON THE WEB AND ORGANIZE!

Check the CLC Globalization web site to see what's happening and what social justice coalitions are planning around globalization and trade issues: www.clc-ctc.ca/globalization

THE GLOBAL ECONOMY IS NOT BEYOND OUR CONTROL AS LONG AS WE BECOME INVOLVED CITIZENS!

THAT'S RIGHT!

AMEN!!!

