

## **Global Citizens**

**SOCL87**

**Autumn 2005**

**Wednesday 4:00 – 5:40, SSB101**

**Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2**

**Professor April Linton**

**Department of Sociology**

**SSB 483**

**Office Hours: M 3:10-4:00, F 9:30-10:30**

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*“Are you one of those rare individuals whose principals and convictions actually match up to and shape your conduct as a voter and as a consumer? Or are you as muddled, ambivalent and inconsistent as the rest of us?”*

- University of Colorado Professor Patricia Nelson Limerick, (New York Times Op-Ed, June 22, 2005)

***This seminar’s goal is to reduce muddled inconsistency by increasing knowledge about issues surrounding global trade, development, and inequality; and introducing ways you might use that knowledge in your daily life without going crazy or alienating your friends. We’ll look at where the foods and clothes we consume come from, how they get to us, and how ‘voting with your wallet’ can matter.***

### **I. Global consumers or global citizens?**

- a. Intro
- b. Student survey (anonymous – discussed next week)
- c. Film: *No Logo*
- d. **Homework: Read Rosenberg article, McMichael chapter, Gereffi article (handouts)**

### **II. Transparency and responsible buying**

- a. Discuss survey.
- b. Discuss readings and issues they raise
- c. Potential strategies to increase transparency
- d. Exercise: clothing inventory
- e. **Homework: ‘map’ your outfit and one piece of clothing’s commodity chain.**

### III. Sustainable food

- a. Report results from homework.
- b. Sustainable food movements
- c. Film: *The Future of Food*
- d. **Homework (okay to pair up): Interview a food purveyor about their buying decisions.** (Potential interviewees include dining hall purchasers, representatives of campus cooperatives, a local restaurateur, someone who sells prepared food at farmers' markets... [NOT a chain restaurant]...)

### IV. Free trade vs. fair trade

- a. Report results from homework.
- b. The Fair Trade movement
- c. Film: *Grounds for a Movement*
- d. **Homework: Choose an organization or campaign relating to issues we've discussed. Prepare a presentation about its 1) motivations, 2) goals, 3) strategies, 4) accomplishments, and 5) limitations.**

Organizations/Campaigns:

Edible Schoolyard

No Sweat Apparel

Clean Clothes (pick a campaign)

Global Exchange (anti-sweatshop, fair trade chocolate)

Oxfam (Make Trade Fair)

McDonald's and animal rights (see *Fast Food Nation*, *PETA*...)

Ten Thousand Villages

The Meatrix

Fair Labor Association (FLA)

Worker's Rights Consortium (WRC)

### V. Finale

- a. Presentations and discussion