### Poverty

#### Poverty in Mexico is high now

Reuters, 7/30

(Reuters, “Mexico’s Poverty Rate: Half of Country’s Population Lives in Poverty,” 7/30/13,

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/29/mexico-poverty_n_3673568.html>, RH)  
 ZITLALTEPEC, Mexico, July 29 (Reuters) - Like nearly half of Mexicans who live in poverty, 45-year-old subsistence farmer Oliva Zuniga has little hope of a better life

AND

"They say that since we were born poor, we are poor now, we remain poor, and we will die poor." (Additional reporting by Reuters TV; Editing by Gabriel Stargardter, Simon Gardner and Lisa Shumaker)

#### US trade and aid in Mexico are key to support the living conditions and improve the economic class of farmers

Clayton, 2013

(Eric, writer for Force Change, “Support Efforts to Improve Working Conditions for Coffee Farmers in Chiapas, Mexico,”

<http://forcechange.com/33805/support-efforts-to-improve-working-conditions-for-coffee-farmers-in-chiapas-mexico/> RH)

Chiapas, one of the poorest of Mexico’s 31 states, lags behind the rest of the country in almost all socioeconomic factors, AND

Commend Fair Trade USA and Progreso on their continued efforts to build a more inclusive and equitable global community.

#### Aid in Mexican shade grown coffee will enable the farmers to live a sustainable life and decrease the wealth gap in the region

UCSUSA, 2001

(Union of Concerned Scientists, “Eco-conscious Coffee,” September, 2002, <http://www.ucsusa.org/publications/greentips/2002/ecoconscious-coffee.html> RH)  
An estimated 25 million farm families worldwide are struggling in hunger and poverty because of this crisis.

AND

not to mention a great cup o' joe.

#### Fair trade represent opportunity for sustainable and equitable development

Murray et. al, 2003

(Prepared by Douglas Murray, Laura T. Raynolds, Peter Leigh Taylor, “One Cup at a Time: Poverty Alleviation and Fair Trade Coffee in Latin America,” March 2003,

<http://welcome2.libarts.colostate.edu/centers/cfat/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/One-Cup-at-a-Time.pdf>, RH)

‘Fair Trade has emerged as a potentially important movement for social change in Europe, North America, and regions of the developing world.

AND

Responsibility for the case studies lies with the individual authors of these reports, while responsibility for the ﬁ nal report lies with the FTRG.

#### Small-scale farmers in Latin America produce shade grown coffee; these people usually live in extreme poverty. Fair Trade coffee trade ensures that the producers receive their guaranteed price for their coffee. It also allows for an eco-friendly organic production.

Murray et. al, 2003

(Prepared by Douglas Murray, Laura T. Raynolds, Peter Leigh Taylor, it was used as a short-term exploration of conditions in the production of Fair Trade coffee in Mexico, “One Cup at a Time: Poverty Alleviation and Fair Trade Coffee in Latin America,” March 2003,

<http://welcome2.libarts.colostate.edu/centers/cfat/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/One-Cup-at-a-Time.pdf>, RH)

The global coffee market has fallen into a profound crisis.

AND

This report attempts to answer these concerns by identifying the major strengths and weaknesses of Fair Trade production.

#### Fair trade can decrease the gap between the producer and the consumer, cutting out the middleman. Fair Trade attempts to ensure economic stability for the producers, however, the plan doesn’t simply hand them gifts. It attempts to set a pathway that can be used for future success.

Whilsler, 2009

(Jeanne Whisler, UW-L Undergraduate Researcher, “A Critique of Fair Trade,” 2009, <http://www.uwlax.edu/urc/jur-online/pdf/2009/whisler-jeanephi.pdf>, RH)

Based upon this definition, according to the Fair Trade Labeling Organization (FLO), fair trade is not a charity based idea;

AND

This market niche can be seen as the pathway from the periphery to the center: this is the primary purpose of Fair Trade.

### Feminism

#### Neoliberal policies- like industrialized coffee growing- disproportionately affect women of color

Ireland 11

(Heather Montes, Doctoral student in Gender Studies at the Indiana University “Transnational Feminism and the Microfinance (R)evolution: Excavating Microlending from Neoliberalism” <http://academia.edu/855930/Transnational_Feminism_and_the_Microfinance_R_evolution_Excavating_Microlending_from_Neoliberalism> pgs.1-2) TYBG

Transnational feminist and U.S. women of color scholarship have documented the detrimental consequences of neoliberal economic restructuring

AND

we must bring a critical feminist eye to all policies, both those that claim to be gender-oriented and those that do not.

#### Natural grown, environmentally friendly products like shade coffee enhance the lives of all beings within the ecosystems and are key to women in developing countries – it enables them to live a sustainable and healthy life, thus being able to challenge the gender inequalities

Zack, 2005

(Naomi, PhD from Columbia University, author of RACE AND MIXED RACE< INCLUSIVE FEMINISM, AND PHILSOPHY OF SCIENCE, Professor of Philosophy at University of Oregon, “Feminism: A third Wave Theory of Women’s Commonality, <http://books.google.com/books?id=8-wIEyCKetYC&pg=PA148&lpg=PA148&dq=shade+grown+coffee+feminism&source=bl&ots=6Uoa2CTCOp&sig=wSFEFURIFvZGdfHscDc_VAyN4as&hl=en&sa=X&ei=PdF6Uq_GK5GBrQGFtICwAw&ved=0CCsQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=shade%20grown%20coffee%20feminism&f=false>, RH)

When coffee is grown on clear-cut land, songbirds lose their habitat.

AND

Many like to believe that working mothers and wives are materially supported by their partners or other family members.

#### The US is specifically key to economically assist Mexico. US influence would increase the trade and help the women in the developing region.

Fair Trade Wire, 2012

(“Fair Trade Wire, news agency that has articles from Fair Trade coffee, La FEM: Improving Coffee Production & Women’s Rights in Nicaragua,” October 2, 2012

<http://www.fairtradewire.com/la-fem-improving-coffee-production-womens-rights-in-nicaragua>, RH)  
La Fundacion Entre Mujeres is a well organized all-women’s NGO in northern Nicaragua that is committed to selling quality, Fair Trade coffee

AND

also to feel that they are not alone in their struggle.

#### Patriarchy is a dysfunctional system – leads to global structural violence, destructive behaviors against the environment leading to domination of the earth

Warren and Cady, 1994

(Karen Warren and Duane Cady, Professors of Philosophy at Macalester College and Hamline University. “Feminism and Peace: Seeking Connections.” Hypatia. Vol. 9, Iss. 2; pg. 4 Spring 1994 Proquest)

The notion of patriarchy as a socially dysfunctional system enables feminist philosophers to show why conceptual connections are so important

AND

Its plausibility lies in understanding the conceptual roots of various woman-nature-peace connections in regional, national, and global contexts.

### Plan

#### Plan: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic engagement toward Mexico through investment in shade-grown, Mexican Fair Trade coffee.

### Framing

#### Morality is the best way to politically orient ourselves

Loobuyck 12

(Patrick, South African Journal of philosophy Vol. 31 no 3 "Creating mutual identification and solidarity in highly diversified societies. The importance of identification by shared participation". (Loobuyck is a professor at university of Antwerp)

Therefore, it has been suggested, that the sense of belonging together, as a necessary condition for social solidarity,requires one to reject the idea of a neutral state.

AND

this is only possible when the idea of the neutral state is replaced by a non-neutral politics of the common good.

#### Moral obligation to endorse the plan because of the positive strides it makes against poverty in Mexico

O’Donnell, 1996

(Guillermo, Professor of Government and International Studies, Academic Director of the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at University of Notre Dame; “POVERTY AND INEQUALITY IN LATIN AMERICA: SOME POLITICAL REFLECTIONS,” <http://-www.rrojasdatabank.info/225odonnell.pdf>)

Poverty-generated needs are so many and so vital that one is morally and professionally impelled to alleviate them

AND

an obvious question is why so little of so much good advice has been actually implemented.

#### As a policy maker, you must address and acknowledge human rights first.

Pelton 5

(Leroy H. Peltonprofessor in and former director of the School of Social Work, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Frames of Justice, 2005, pages 152-153, MC & JS)

Everyone has an obligation to promote and support life.

AND

Benefits should be tied to individuals, not groups.

#### Utilitarianism can be manipulated to justify any atrocity – their framework condones mass slaughter.

Holt, commentator for the BBC, writes frequently about politics and philosophy 1995

(Jim, New York Times, “Morality, Reduced To Arithmetic,” August 5, p. Lexis)

Can the deliberate massacre of innocent people ever be condoned?

AND

the bomb’s sinister legacy is plain: it has inured us to the idea of reducing innocents to instruments and morality to arithmetic.

#### Major war is obsolete – nuclear weapons and rising cost check aggression

Mandelbaum, 1999

(Michael Mandelbaum, American foreign policy professor at the Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University, 1999 “Is Major War Obsolete?”, [http://www.ciaonet.org/conf/cfr10/](http://www.ciaonet.org/conf/cfr10/" \t "_blank))

My argument says, tacitly, that while this point of view, which was widely believed 100 years ago, was not true then,

AND

there is no great-power conflict into which the many local conflicts that have erupted can be absorbed.

### Solvency

#### US will support coffee production within Mexico – it is green coffee production, economically friendly, and helps support the farmers

Global Exchange, 2011

(Global Exchange is international human rights organization dedicated to promote environmental, and social justice globally, “Coffee in the Global Economy,” 2011, <http://www.globalexchange.org/fairtrade/coffee/faq>, RH)

What role does coffee play in the US economy?

AND

Around the globe, the annual consumption of coffee is 12 billion pounds and in the U.S. alone, over 130 million consumers are coffee drinkers.

#### US has the incentive to maintain an environmentally friendly coffee industry with Mexico – bilateral cooperation will help the farmers, and keep the environment healthy

Natural Resource Defense Council, 1996

(“Coffee, Conservation, and Commerce in the Western Hemisphere   
How Individuals and Institutions Can Promote Ecologically Sound Farming and Forest Management in Northern Latin America

<http://www.nrdc.org/health/farming/ccc/chap6.asp>, RH)

Adoption of sustainable coffee systems presents transitional economic risks for growers and processors.

AND

MacArthur Foundation to train peasant farmers in that state in organic coffee production and to support ecologically sound agriculture by farmers operating in the buffer zone of the Lacandon rain forest.