I. Globalization

A. Old Stories, new stories

1. “White Man’s Burden”

2. Post WWII: modernization

3. Globalization

B. Globalization

1. Since the mid-70s

2. “Storytellers”: First world government,

Multi-national corporations, corporate media

3. solution: US as common model

a. free market capitalism

i. maximize resources

ii. new technology

iii. new goods and services

b. democracy

i. representative government

ii. eliminate dictators

c. results:

i. higher standard of living

ii. health care, education, opportunity

4. means: “free trade “

a. International agreements: rules and regulations for

free trade

i. GATT (Global)

ii. NAFTA (North America)

iii. FTAA (Americas)

b. international regulatory bodies to settle

trade disputes

i. World Trade Organization

ii. NAFTA Chapter 11 Tribunal

c. Developmental loans

i. loans to poor countries

ii. international institutions: World Bank, International Monetary Fund

6. Resistance

a. reactionary governments

b. religious extremists

c. cultural traditionalists

II. Globalization: “Another Story”

A. Explaining contradictions

1. Poverty in countries with wealth

2. world hunger when there is enough food.

a. 4.3 lbs

b. 80% of countries with hungry children

c. 36 out of 40 countries

3. debt: loans and aid

a. Aid FW $80 billion/ debt repayment $200 billion

b. US Aid

i. $20 billion (1/2 military)

ii. comparison

4. continuing support of dictators or “democracies”

5. growing inequality

B. Reality: Neo-Colonialism/ economic imperialism

C. Powerful Groups organizing and shaping world

1. Multi-national Corporations:

2. First World governments

3. Third World Elite

D. Excluded: everyone else

E. Globalization real goal: create a global system for profit taking of MNCs.

1. natural resources

2. cheap labor

3. open markets

a. no subsidies

b. no tariffs

c. eliminate “non-tariff barriers”

4. agreements on intellectual property rights

5. privatization

6. create 3 billion consumers and 3 billion expendable

human beings to serve them

D. Method

1. Establish and support certain TW

a. elites govern in interests of FW

b. historically: dictators

2. Put country in debt through “developmental loans”

a. elite and military

b. infrastructure (dams, highways, bridges, ports,

harbors)

c. 40% of WB loans: coal, oil

3. Demand “structural adjustment”

a. privatize profitable industries

b. privatize government services

i. water

ii. transportation

iii. fire, police

iv. education: users fees

v. health care: users fees

c. no subsidies to agriculture

d. Create and maintain an environment for sweatshops

i. no unions or labor organizers

ii. no occupational safety and health regulations

iii. no environmental laws

iv. low wages: below subsistence

v. “export processing zones”

5. WTO and NAFTA Tribunals

a. decisions regarding trade disputes

b. accept penalties

E. “The People”

1. 80% of TW were tied to agriculture

2. No agricultural subsidies: forced off the land

a. forced to farm marginal land

b. work on plantations

c. desperate global labor force

i. sweatshops

ii. domestic and migrant labor in

FW

d. sell children into forced labor

3. Resistance is met by military force.

G. “The Land”

1. Environment polluted by extractive industries

2. Rain forests destroyed

3. Whole communities and cultures that

were land based destroyed

4. toxic dump

H. Consequences: global social problems discussed earlier

NAFTA: Chapter 11

1. Foreign corporations (or a single shareholder) can

sue the US government if they feel a regulation has

diminished their right to profit

2. Not a suit in court, but a secret tribunal

a. closed to public

b. no limit on amount

c. claims for $13 billion have been filed

3. decision is binding

a. professional arbiters

b. No appeal

4. US can be sued by foreign corps doing business in

US for US environmental laws, worker safety laws,

laws protecting US businesses

5. Examples:

a. MTBE and Methanex

b. Ethyl Corp sued Canada MMT, nerve toxin