

## Threads of Wrath Workshop

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Welcome to the Threads of Wrath Workshop!

This workshop is designed in two parts, to go hands-in-hands with the *Threads of Wrath* DVD. It is suited for groups of grade 9 and above, and for adult education. There is no restriction on the size of the groups; some of the activities are individuals and other are to be realized in small groups.

A suggested sequence would be the following :

- Pre-workshop activities
- Background clips on DVD (optional)
- Film on DVD
- Find out more clips on DVD (optional)
- Post-workshop activities

The total time required ranges from one to two hours, depending on the clips and activities selected. Facilitators are welcome to use the activities they find more suited to their audience, and any feed-back on the current activities and suggestions for others are welcome!

The following materials are needed to undertake this workshop:

- *Threads of Wrath* DVD
- DVD viewer
- Print outs of pre and post workshop questionnaires

Please note that all workshop materials are available in PDF format on the DVD, however these will not open on a regular DVD player. You will need a computer to open those.

Enjoy the workshop!



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## Pre-workshop activities

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### - The ultimatum game.

*The workshop facilitator can start the sequence by asking a few people in the room to answer the following question. The goal is to see how different people (and cultures) can have different views of fairness.*

Somebody has 20\$ to give to you and your friend. He offers you 2\$, and 18\$ to your friend. You can either accept or reject. If you accept, you'll each get the proposed share. If you refuse, nobody will get anything.

What do you do? Why

### - Pre workshop questionnaire

*This questionnaire is used to get individuals thinking about issues of fairness. It is completed individually. There is no right or wrong answer, and those are not market. People are encouraged to write a short comment after their answer to nuance it. The facilitator can use its discretion to choose whether or not to discuss the questions, as they can be sensitive.*

Please indicate the most important thing for you in your work.

1. Have enough money to provide for my family
2. Have a stable permanent job
3. Work with people I get along with
4. Doing a job that allows me to get good social standing
5. Other:

Please answer the following questions, individually. Feel free to comment on them for yourself.

1=	2 =	3=	4=	5=
Completely Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Completely Disagree

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

People who don't work are lazy.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

It's humiliating to get money that you didn't earn.

Work is a duty towards society.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Work should always come first, before people

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I always want the best deal, even if it means the person who made the good I purchase will get less.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Compagnies should be directed by the private sector

1                      2                      3                      4

The government should nationalize companies

5

The government should ensure everybody can live decently.

People have the responsibility to look after themselves.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Competition is good. It gets people to work hard and to come up with new ideas.

Competition is bad. It gets people to be egoistic.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

At the end of the day, it's effort that pays off.

Effort doesn't necessarily pay off. It's more about contacts and luck.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

People only get rich because others get poor.

1                      2                      3                      4

Wealth can grow so everyone can benefit.

5

I think that everybody is equal, regardless of their gender, race, religion, etc.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Everybody should pay the same price when they buy a good, regardless of whether they are rich or poor.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I think someone who is going to work in another country should be treated in the same way as the nationals from that country.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I believe our government should redistribute income between the rich and the poor.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I think rich countries should be giving more money to poor countries as development aid.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

In a family, if someone earns more, it's normal that they share with others.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I don't talk behind people's back because I wouldn't want others to talk behind my back.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

If I found a cash tree, I would tell all my peers.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

It's fair that some bigger companies can sell for less.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If two people from the same age do the same work, it's normal that the 1st person earn more if he or she is doing better work.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If a trader buys cheap produce from a farmer's market in a rural area, he or she has to just add the costs of transportation to the reselling price.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If I have a friend who has a retail store, he or she have to give me a discount when I come and shop.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If someone passes away after committing an homicide, that is fair.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If a farmer has a bad crop, it must be because he or she did something wrong and he or she shouldn't complain.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

It is better to boycott products from countries who boycott ours.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

In general, it's better to pardon than to punish.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

## **Discussion questions**

*The facilitator can ask the following questions to set the ground for the different terms and issues to be discussed in the film.*

- What is a good deal in business?
- What is a fair deal in business?
- What's the difference between fair trade certified and other types of ethical trade?
- How are the buy local and buy fair trade movements related?

*Post workshop*

- **Discussion questions**

In the filmmaker's experience, the post-film discussion has been as valuable as the short documentary itself. The facilitator is welcome to encourage a general Q&A if she/he is comfortable with it, or she/he can choose amongst the following questions, as well as add some of their own.

- What allows SOFITEX to be this way?
- Any parallels with companies in Canada?
- What solutions would you propose to the cotton growers?
- What can fair trade do and not do for producers?

- **Post film questionnaire**

*This questionnaire is similar to the pre-film questionnaire, but this time, people are asked to answer the following questions, in group, in relation to the film you just watched, pretending to be a Burkinabè cotton grower.*

It's a children's duty to work in his or her parents' fields.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

If I stop growing cotton, people in town will criticize me.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

It is fair for SOFITEX to give strict delays for charging its trucks, or else it wouldn't be efficient.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

SOFITEX drivers are right to sell their trucks' gas to villagers for their own benefit, even if it's then built in the company's operating costs.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Men make decisions regarding cotton, not women.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I have the right to get a credit to buy input to grow my cotton

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Farmers have to produce as much as they can and not worry about the environment.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If my children stopped working in the fields, I could still make a profit from cotton growing.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If a member of a cotton cooperative is in debt, it is fair for others to take possession of his oax and moped.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If cotton growing is not profitable for me, I can stop without any negative consequences from SOFITEX.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

Effort is the most important factor (of the following : effort, luck, talent, influence) determining success in cotton growing.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

It's a child's duty to help his or her parents in the cotton field.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

The Union should be present at every SOFITEX meeting.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

SOFITEX should explain in details how they come up with the price of cotton.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5

If American can subsidize their cotton, then African governments should be able to subsidize their cotton production by the same amount.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I think Africans should have some privilege (e.g. a higher price) in the cotton markets.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

When SOFITEX pays their money to the coops, it would be fairer if everyone got the same amount as opposed to splitting it in function of each person's production.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

China and the United States should leave cotton growing to Africans.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

If France tries to limit its textile imports from China, then it should also limit their importations from all other countries.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I think some producers, be them Africans, Americans, Chinese or Indian, should all be subject to the same environmental and labour standards.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

I think there should be women in the cooperatives.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5