

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR MEXICO

WORKSHEET: Violent Illegal Drug Supply Chains

On the left is the script from the video and on the right are questions related to the video. Re-read the video script and answer the questions on the right.

Video Script

The U.S. has the **highest usage** of illegal drugs in the world.
Americans spend **\$40 billion**/yr on imported drugs from Mexico alone.
This money leaves the U.S. economy,
And goes into the hands of warring cartels.

These dollars...
are spent on **weapons**
bribe police and government officials
empower cartels to scare, kill, and corrupt
the innocent, and pay for imported drugs
from Central and South America, spreading
organized crime and corruption.

In 2006, Mexico's Government waged the
Drug War
U.S. Foreign Aid helps Mexico fight the
cartels and the drug supply,
But American drug demand remains strong.

U.S. drug users finance cartels.
U.S. weapons arm cartels.
U.S. aid supports the Mexican military
Net result: **50,000 deaths** in 5 years

And our neighbor continues to suffer.

1. How much is \$40 billion?

2. Why does the U.S. have the highest usage of illegal drugs in the world?

3. Why do cartels spend money on weapons and bribing police?

4. What is the Drug War? Why did the government start it? Who is fighting?

5. Who are the victims? Who is being impacted by this war?

6. Where else do drugs come from besides Mexico? Is there drug related violence in these places too?

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THERE IS A **DRUG** WAR GOING ON NEXT DOOR
IN 6 YEARS...



40,000+
CHILDREN ORPHANED



230,000+
FAMILIES DISPLACED



55,000+
PEOPLE DEAD



VIOLENT
CENSORSHIP
OF MEDIA OUTLETS



120,000+
KIDNAPPED CENTRAL
AMERICAN MIGRANTS



HUNDREDS OF
ACTIVISTS, OFFICIALS,
JOURNALISTS, MAYORS,
POLITICIANS AND
POLICE TARGETED
AND KILLED.

SOURCES: INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT MONITORING CENTER. COMMITTEE TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS. COMMISSION FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS OF THE MEXICAN DEPUTIES' CHAMBER MEXICO'S NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

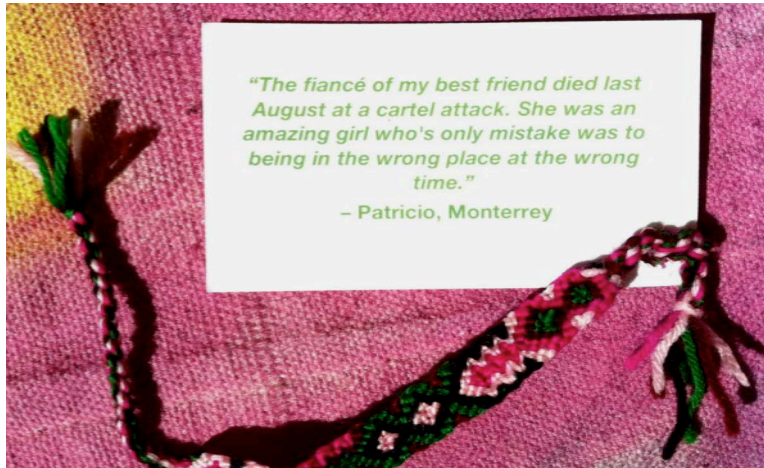
For decades, Mexican drug cartels have trafficked drugs into the United States. To maintain operations in Mexico, cartels bribe Mexican government officials. In 2006, the Mexican President waged war on the cartels to end the decades of bribery and illegal practices. This war is called the "Drug War." The war successfully destabilized some of the major cartels in the beginning, and due to this weakness, other cartels have emerged. Now, there are over 10 cartels in Mexico fighting for regional control and access to the U.S. They want control because Americans have the largest illegal drug demand in the world and they are willing to pay a lot of money for illegal drugs.

The Drug War has killed over 50,000 people. Those dead include cartel members, Mexican law enforcement, and innocent people. Daily life in Mexico has been interrupted and taken over. Over 230,000 people were displaced from their homes in 2010.

Drug trafficking poses the greatest threat not only to Mexico, but also to other Latin American countries. Some drugs are grown or made in South America and are brought through Central America and Mexico to get to the U.S.. As a result, each country along the way that stands between the supply and the U.S. demand is being ravaged by the drug war.

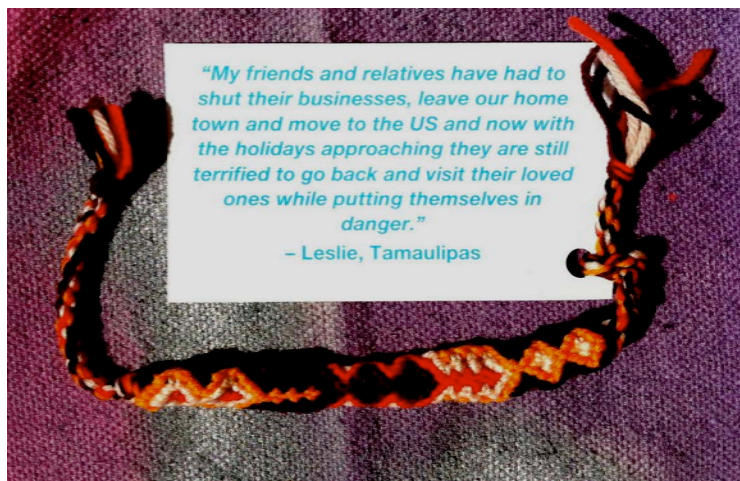
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Testimonials



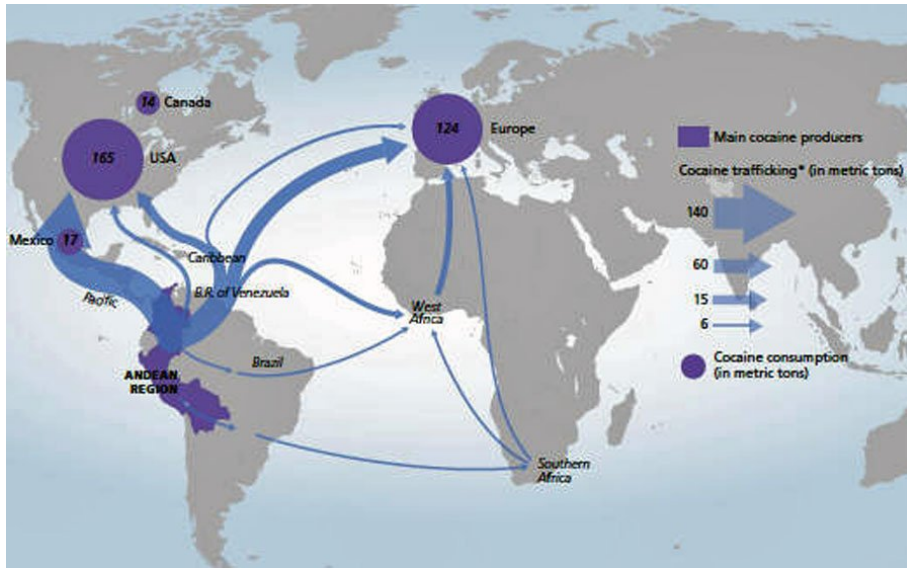
"Living in El Paso, TX, I was angry and frustrated as I watched the murders unravel. What was most unnerving was hearing my relatives fear for their lives as they described their close encounters with the drug cartel. Naively, I assumed this war would not affect them since they are respected individuals that have no ties with drugs. Today, the neighborhoods are guarded with security but I don't think we will ever live without the fear."

Lizeth, El Paso

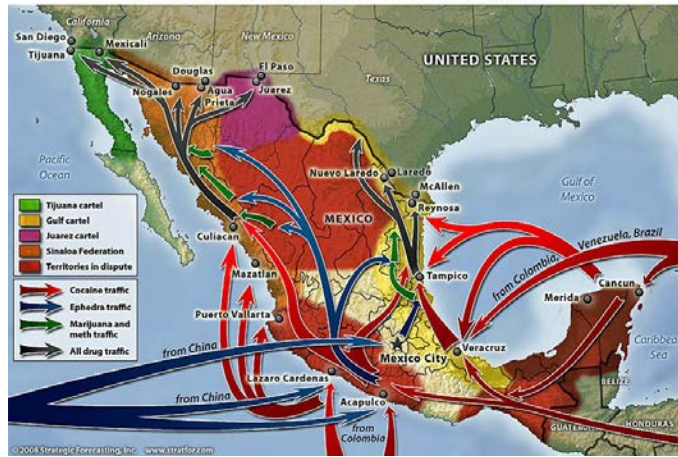


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Global Supply Chains

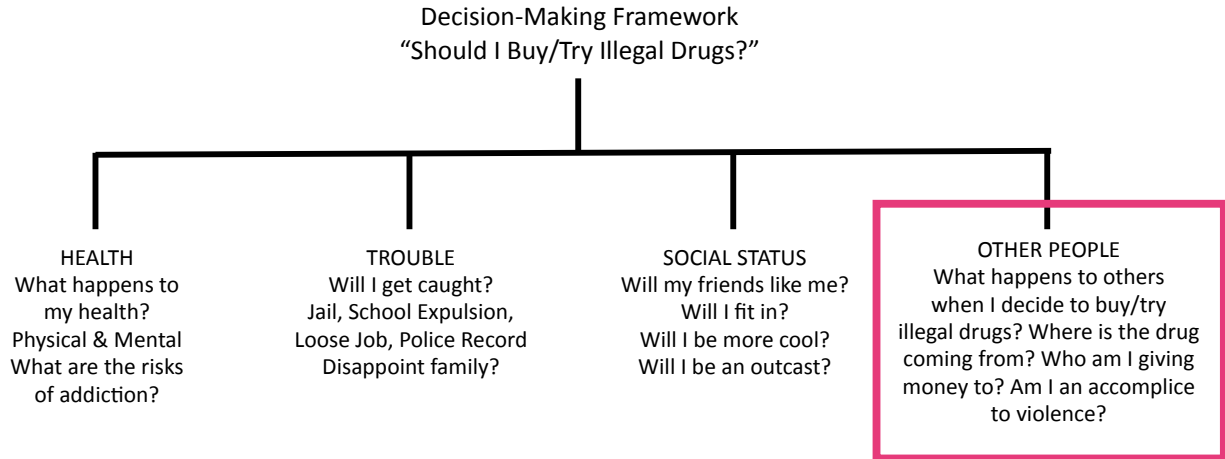


CARTEL TERRITORIES AND DRUG ROUTES



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Decision Making and Personal Reflection



What do you think of this framework? How do you make a decision about illegal drug use?

After this lesson, how has your perception of illegal supply chains changed?

How will you share this information with a friend? In person? Facebook?

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Facts and Resources

- U.S. drug demand funds Mexican cartels, which produce and distribute illegal drugs.
 - 90% of the cocaine that enters the U.S. crosses the U.S.-Mexico land border.
 - 40-67% of all marijuana in the U.S. comes from Mexico.
 - 60% of profits earned by drug lords come from the export and sale of marijuana to the U.S.
 - Cartels make an estimated yearly revenue of \$8 billion on meth alone.
- The most common drugs in the cartel trade are marijuana, cocaine, and methamphetamine.
- These cartels use violent tactics to intimidate the government and civilians, and the violence spreads into the U.S. and involves U.S. citizens.
 - Over 50,000 people have died in 6 years due to cartel violence
- Cartels are linked to a vast web of illicit global activity.
- Cartels have connections all over the United States and are constantly coming up with new ways to get drugs across the border.
 - By 2009 more than 1000 U.S. cities were involved with Mexican-based cartels.
 - More than 90% of the guns involved in the violence come from the U.S.
- Every day Mexican citizens suffer from cartel violence.

Resources:

1. www.lovetheyneighbormexico.org
2. www.facebook.com/lovetheyneighbormexico
3. www.twitter.com/ltn_mexico
4. www.pinterest.com/ltnm
5. www.kippt.com/lovetheyneighbormexico
6. "How a Mexican Drug Cartel Makes Its Billions" at nytimes.com
7. "16 Maps of Drug Flow Into the United States" at businessinsider.com
8. <http://projects.latimes.com/mexico-drug-war/#/its-a-war>
9. "Interactive: Cocaine Roadmap" at latimes.com