



## G8/G20 Justice Teach-In

Hosting a G8/G20 Justice Teach-in is a great way to both educate your community and come together for action. It is one way to connect yourself with communities around the country taking action as well as grow the Jubilee movement in your area! Below is a sample agenda – contact Jeremy at 202-783-0214 or email him at [Jeremy@jubileeusa.org](mailto:Jeremy@jubileeusa.org) for more guidance, support, and ideas to make your event even more successful!

### **Sample Agenda:**

- 1. Introductions (15 minutes)** Host should describe how they have become involved in the Jubilee movement, and allow for everyone to introduce themselves and share why they came to the events. If you want to make it more festive, make the event a potluck dinner event and start off by eating and building community.
- 2. Facilitate 4 Corners Exercise (20 minutes)** Gather everyone to do the 4 Corners Exercise
- 3. Present the Jubilee Grassroots Powerpoint (30 minutes)-**  
Facilitate the Powerpoint provided by Jubilee USA to educate your community about the issues of debt crisis and the G8/G20. After presenting, or during, be sure to entertain questions and discussion. Remember – you do not have to be an expert – you are there to present key information around these complex issues.
- 4. Pass around the petition (5 Minutes)** -The petition will be pushing for the sovereign debt workout mechanism to help end debt crises!
- 5. Plans for future growth and action! (15 minutes)** – Take 15 minutes to discuss how everyone in the room together might be interested in becoming more involved or engaged in the Jubilee movement --- plan for future teach-ins, movie nights, interfaith services, etc.



# G8/G20 – Justice and Accountability

## 4 Corners Exercise

This exercise can be done at the beginning of your dialogue and/or presentation on the G8/G20. As we know, global financial decisions are made by powerful stakeholders and have immense impacts on our own lives, and particularly those who are most poor within the Global South. This easy exercise is meant to provide you with the opportunity to discuss and learn together these realities. Following this exercise you can hand out the worksheet attached, the petition, and/or present the Jubilee grassroots Powerpoint on the G8/G20 for further education.

### Goal:

To have your community walk away with a deeper consideration of the continued differences of power, which impact and perpetuate poverty and global inequality.

### Materials:

Facilitator sheet

Print Outs of Corner Opinions

### Facilitator Role:

Gather everyone in the room. Announce that each corner has been labeled and represents differences of opinions – *I strongly agree, I agree, I disagree, I strongly disagree*.

Explain that you will be reading a number of statements, and that people should move into the respective corners. After each round, have each of the people from the different corners share why they are standing where they are. You can do this in large and small groups -- and depending on the time you'd like to discuss you can have 1 or as many opinions as you would like shared from each corner and area of the room. But be sure to have at least one person from each corner share!

This opening exercise should allow people to think critically about their ideas about global decision makers and their impacts, issues of global power, inequality, and set the stage for examining the G8/G20 summits.



Explain that the first three statements are just warm-ups, and then we'll get into the statements that relate to our global financial system. *Don't spend too much time on the first three questions when you ask for volunteers and discussion.*

1. Chocolate ice cream is better than Vanilla ice cream
2. Spring is the best season of the year
3. PCs are superior to Macs (or another random statement of your choosing)
4. Third world poverty is the result of corrupt politicians
5. It is the responsibility of a borrower to always pay back their debts
6. Cancelling all debts and increasing foreign aid could end poverty in the developing world
7. The nations with the largest economies should decide and implement financial rules and regulation
8. If you cause a problem, it is your responsibility to fix it
9. The United States, the largest contributor of greenhouse gases that cause Climate Change, owes nations in the Global South for future impacts of Climate Change
10. Corporations have too much influence in our nation's politics
11. Corporations do not pay their fair share of taxes in the United States or rest of the world
12. The global financial decision makers are more concerned with the well being of people and the environment than economic growth
13. Global summits, such as the Durban Climate Negotiations, Rio + 20, and the G8/G20 are democratic and accountable to the people of the world

Ideally you'll have a lot of different opinions or gradient of opinions. Use this valuable time to have people share and discuss. Conclude with a discussion on additional comments, surprises, things people may have learned or re-discovered, and/or reflection on differences and similarities within the group.



## G8/G20 -- Why do we take action?

- The G8 is an annual forum for leaders of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the UK, and the United States. The G20 include these same nations as well as South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, China, South Korea, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Australia, Mexico. Together these nations help shape the economic future for the entire world.
- These groups of nations have the power to exacerbate wealth inequality or eradicate poverty through pushing for particular economic policies.
- Past debt cancellation came through the global Jubilee movement pressuring the world governments, and debt relief was initially promised at the G-7 (before Russia joined) in 1999. As a movement we have to pressure Congress, the Presidential Administration, the Treasury Secretary, as well as these international summits, which represent just one more link holding together the chains of injustice!

## What is our call for justice?

- Countries all over the globe continue to experience high levels of debt and subsequent poverty, much of which has been caused by reckless lending.
- These unsustainable and illegitimate debts reduce many nations ability towards economic recovery, and prevent the eradication of poverty in the developing world. A fair and lasting solution is needed.
- Even after both developed and developing nations have been enveloped by debt crises, we still lack a fair and concrete procedure to deal with the issue.
- We can establish mechanisms to fairly and democratically address these issues. The development of what might be understood as an international debt court can form through the implementation of a Fair and Transparent Arbitration Process (FTAP) and an international debt court!
- An international debt court would allow for the global community to look at each nation's debt and deem which parts are unsustainable or unjust, and in doing so provide relief and money towards necessary social services.

Go to [www.jubileeusa.org/ftap/ftapresources.html](http://www.jubileeusa.org/ftap/ftapresources.html) for more detailed report