



## United Students for Fair Trade

empowering alternatives

1301 Clifton St NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
(202) 296-6727

### Hot Chocolate Game

#### Desired Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate a type of popular education.
2. Discuss in a fun way the flawed global economic system
3. Illustrate supply chain and distribution of income within most commodity markets
4. Discuss alternatives to the commodity chain and ways for participants to be involved in creating and promoting empowering alternatives.

Time: 30-45 Minutes

Supplies: Enough mugs for all participants, one spoon, one box of Fair Trade Hot Chocolate.

#### FACILITATE:

##### 1. Supply Chain

\* Divide the group so that there is one consumer, one retailer, one wholesaler, one manufacturer, one purchaser, leaving the rest of the participants as small farmers.

\* Hand out the mugs to everyone and explain that we will be working back from the consumer to the producer to illustrate how most trade is done. In this exercise, the cocoa represents both the product and the resources that go into buying and selling it.

\* Give the consumer the box of non fairly traded hot chocolate and ask them to follow the package and put two scoops for their mug of cocoa, then get them to hand it to the retailer. The retailer then takes two scoops and hands it to the traders.

\* Because the traders have a monopoly each trader can take as much hot chocolate as they like, as long as they pass on what they think will be enough for the remaining participants.

\* When the cocoa gets to the small farmers, they must divide it amongst themselves equally.

Σ Everyone then adds hot water to their drinks and drinks their hot chocolate.

Σ

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### 2. Reflect

Have each group report back to the whole group about what their experience was like and how their hot chocolate tastes.

Ask participants to extrapolate out from the experience-- How is this similar to the global economic supply chain, how is it different? What other parallels could we draw?

### 3. Praxis

Ask participants to discuss potential ways to change the system. Discuss potential and limitations of FT System, depending on timing.

### 4. Plus Delta.

What worked well for the participants? What could we do differently in the future?

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