

*Globalization: The Human & Environmental Cost of Fast Fashion*

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| **Introduction** | |
| Fast Fashion has driven down the cost of clothing significantly and has made it disposable. This has created an environmental catastrophe! Globalization & NAFTA have furthered reduced costs and significantly reduced the ability of local artisans to continue their trade. Traditional clothing has become prohibitively expensive, thus reducing the number of traditional fabrics created. | |
| **Indiana Standards Connections:**    GHW 6.6 Compare and contrast the impact of the Industrial Revolution on developed countries with the economic processes acting upon less developed and developing countries in the contemporary world.  GHW 8.3 Analyze the impact of changing global patterns of trade and commerce on the state and local community and predict the impact of these patterns in the future.  GHW 12.3 | **Compelling Question(s):**    How has globalization impacted local artisans?  What is the impact of fast fashion on traditional weaving practices?  How has NAFTA and other trade agreements impact jobs at home and abroad? |
| **Lesson Objectives:**   Analyze the impact of fast fashion on the environment and the human population.  Explain how globalization can be a good thing and a bad thing.  Describe how Globalization has affected trade over the past 100 years. | |
| **Materials** | |
| Paper, markers/colored pencils  YouTube video [“Dead White Man’s Clothing”](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwi577yeufr-AhVvkokEHfsrAaUQFnoECB0QAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.abc.net.au%2Fnews%2F2021-08-12%2Ffast-fashion-turning-parts-ghana-into-toxic-landfill%2F100358702&usg=AOvVaw2ab8Xhw69geBU36sbP3L7w) | |
| **Learning Plan** | |
| **Activities**   * Watch the 60 Minutes Australia episode Dead White Man’s Clothing. Point out the human and environmental cost of this donation problem. * Show hand weaving on a [loom video](https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQLzUx4WQ9O9S7QDxaPzyXYouVDUP0NKp4gemJyej_gqg&s) * NAFTA (based on EU) Income and Wealth inequality between the US, Canada, and Mexico is large – not an even trade (compare GDPs)   + Cheaper to produce items elsewhere, no oversight   + NAFTA created Fast Fashion & cost of clothing fell dramatically   + Rise of Shein, Temu, H&M, Zara, Amazon clothing * Show students different examples of locally made textiles from W2W (Kente, Ghaghra, Huipil)   + 60 Minutes reported that there has been an 80% drop in production traditional textiles   + Local residents cannot afford to buy traditional clothing   + Traditional clothing can require 1 week-1 month to fabricate * Give the Students paper and markers/colored pencils and tell them to design their own fabric   + After 5 minutes, I stopped the students. Whoever was not done, lost their job to the fast fashion industry. | |
| **Assessment Suggestions**   Discussion of the problem and create a student response board based on the question “How can one reduce the impact of fast fashion?”  Create an awareness campaign at your school using posters or infographs. | |
| **Extensions**  Analyze/Discuss this quote:  “However, handmade textiles appear to be fast dwindling in the face of the demands of modernity. the painstaking process of their creation can take months, if not years, from ideation to execution, and simply cannot compete with industrial competitors. their circle is thus shrinking, with many crafts seriously endangered and a few lost forever.” [**Handmade for the 21st century: safeguarding traditional Indian textiles**](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000382921) | |