



NEW BEDFORD FISHING HERITAGE CENTER

Discussion Prompts- New Immigrants

Activity Overview: Students will explore and respond to oral history excerpts and audio clips related to the topic of immigration in New Bedford's fishing industry.

Grades: This activity was created for students in middle or high school and should be adjusted accordingly.

Activity Directions:

Give students the opportunity to look through the "New Immigrants" section of the [Changing Way of Life Digital Exhibit](#). The following discussion prompts will provide guidance and talking points to discuss this content with students:

- Listen to the audio clip, "Workers Rights," in the "Central American Women in Seafood Processing" section. What can you propose as a solution to the feelings of "exploitation" described by the three female fish house workers? How could these workers be made to feel supported and appreciated?
- Listen to two of the six audio clips found within "Central American Women in Seafood Processing." In two or three sentences, describe how these women view their working lives in New Bedford's fishing industry.
- What is the "American Dream"? Listen to some of the audio clips from the "Central American Women in Seafood Processing." Do their stories display evidence that the American Dream is what people expected it to be? Are the risks and challenges worth the outcomes?

Discussion Questions created by:

Ryan Sylvia, New Bedford Vocational Technical High School

Mia Correia, Global Learning Charter School