



## Life Without a Silver Spoon

The fight for independence in Latin America in the nineteenth century began because of the financial inequality of Creoles living in the Americas. Despite achieving independence more than 200 years ago, millions in Latin America still face an imbalance in financial possibilities. While a small percentage of Latin America has economic stability, most do not. In the twenty-first century, many people's solution to this is immigration to wealthier countries.

Nevertheless, immigrating to another country, be it via legal or illegal routes, can be dangerous and uncertain. In 2023 alone, there were over 8,000 immigrant deaths reported. Once in a new country, immigrant rights are not always acknowledged or protected, and they're more at risk of being targets of crime or human trafficking.

Therefore, instead of leaving one's home in search of economic opportunities, having them met on one's home soil would be better. The UN recommends that countries empower and promote people's social, political, and economic inclusion to provide people with opportunities for growth and for their voices to be heard. Similarly, it states that the income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population must grow faster than the national average, allowing people to achieve financial security without risking their own physical security. By providing for the most disadvantaged, people can achieve economic independence in the twenty-first century.

**DO**



## (Re)Make a Flag

In this Maker, you will redesign a flag. Flags are important symbols of identity. A country's flag can unite a nation, while flags about gender and sexuality can promote unity and understanding. However, once designed, flags rarely morph, potentially ignoring a nation's or community's current identity.

1. In groups, decide what flag you want to redesign. You might redesign your country's flag to be more inclusive or redo the peace flag to include more modern symbols.
2. Research the origins of the flag you are redesigning. Identify the symbols included and the original designers' rationale for including them.
3. Discuss the symbols and colors that are important to include in your new flag and make a sketch of your design.
4. Cut and sew fabric together to create a model.
5. Write a brief description of the symbolism of your flag to allow viewers to understand your reasoning better.

### 01 Present!

Once your Maker is done, display your flags around your school. Create an online voting poll to see which flag gets the most votes!

### 02 Discuss!

Complete the statements to make them accurate for you.

- › When I see my flag, I feel...
- › I wish that my country...
- › I am sure that in the future, people in my country will...

### 03 Get Informed!

In small groups, research nations or territories fighting for independence from another nation. Identify their location, their proposals, and the opposition's arguments.

### 04 Take It on the Road!

Gather opinions about your flag from the wider community. Send your versions of the flag to the appropriate government office along with the opinions you gathered. Argue your case for changing the flag.



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