



Living in a globalised world

Where worlds meet

Narrator:

The globalised flows of people and trade have different impacts, depending on where individuals stand in these unequal worlds. This makes the United States/Mexico border one of the most contested on the globe.

For some Mexican's the high security American side of the border is a source of resentment. They believe that they are being prevented from sharing the privileges of the developed world, and that the United States is protecting its territory against them.

And yet the border is still a magnet for those who want to escape poverty. From all over central and south America, they come here to choose the right moment to attempt to cross illegally into the States.

Fernando Palacios Migrant (speaking in Mexican - subtitles):

I am here in order to cross the border. It is very important for me to travel to the USA to work.

Armando Hernandez, Migrant (speaking in Mexican -subtitles)

We are trying to make a better future for our families so that they do not suffer so much.

Narrator:

Every year hundreds of thousands of Mexican's cross the border, legally or illegally into the States, to forge a new life there.

The militarisation of the border aimed at preventing the flow of illegal migrants has been gathering pace.

Three o'clock is muster time for border patrol. They are briefed on the latest news of illegal crossings, and drug trafficking.

In the ten years up to 2006, the federal government more than doubled the budget for border patrol, from 3 billion to 6.7 billion dollars.

Agents along the border in Arizona are using the latest technology to track aliens in the town and in the desert all around.

Though the thin line on a map makes America seem close, the frontier today has distanced the United States from those in the south. This border is a daily reminder for the many millions of people who live here. That they exist at a junction between worlds of poverty, and plenty.