



Development Studies Theses Presentations

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1400h

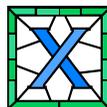
Coady 242



Is Fair Trade a plausible poverty reduction strategy for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals within the context of coffee production in Latin America?

Kathryn Cormier

The global effort to end poverty in the Global South has been a phenomenon commonplace since the end of the Second World War. However, change remains slow, too slow for a significant impact in the lives of those who need it. As this thesis demonstrates, the UNDP's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) represent a large dimension of this global effort to fight poverty, which unfortunately is falling short of what is needed. Fair trade provides a unique tool for poverty reduction in that it employs the current system of trade, which so often is at the root of the problem of poverty, as its vehicle for positive, lasting change in the commodity producing communities of the Global South. Fair trade is a system that uses trade to benefit rather than exploit producers in the Global South, while still delivering quality products for consumption in the North. As such fair trade provides a space in which to further the attainment of the MDGs. This thesis demonstrates this connection through a study of a particular fair trade cooperative's implications in the Guatemalan community of San Lucas Toliman.



Unveiling Girls' Education Opportunities within Muslim Countries

Sarah Crevier

Focusing on the four Muslim countries of Jordan, Tunisia, Indonesia and Pakistan, this thesis strives to uncover the societal structures in place that either encourage or discourage females' participation at the secondary level of education. This thesis demonstrates that Jordan and Tunisia have consistently high rates of enrollment for girls from primary to secondary school, while the rates of enrollment drop for Indonesia and Pakistan. The need to mainstream secondary education for females in all countries, including Indonesia and Pakistan specifically, is due to education being a basic human right, as declared by CEDAW. Furthermore an investment in women has been shown to improve both a family's and a nation's economic prosperity.