

# TEACHING TOLERANCE



A PROJECT OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER  
WWW.TOLERANCE.ORG

MIDDLE & UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

## Maria

The table below lists situations that Maria—and many other undocumented women workers—face in their jobs in the food production industry. With your group, read each situation. Write one response Maria might have, and write it as Response A. Think about the possible consequences of that response and write them in the next column. Then think about another response, and write it as Response B. Follow that with the possible consequences of that response.

| SITUATION                       | POSSIBLE RESPONSE "A" | CONSEQUENCES OF "A" | POSSIBLE RESPONSE "B" | CONSEQUENCES OF "B" |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 12-hour workday                 |                       |                     |                       |                     |
| Headaches from pesticides       |                       |                     |                       |                     |
| Backache                        |                       |                     |                       |                     |
| \$5.75/hour pay                 |                       |                     |                       |                     |
| 45 cents/32-pound bucket        |                       |                     |                       |                     |
| Sexual harassment by co-workers |                       |                     |                       |                     |
| Sexual harassment by bosses     |                       |                     |                       |                     |
| Not getting paid                |                       |                     |                       |                     |

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Look at the information you have put into the table. Discuss each situation with your group. Imagine you are Maria. Circle the decision you would make in each situation. In the space below, write why you would make that decision.

Write a one- or two-sentence summary of the situation in which Maria finds herself. What would you do if you were in her shoes?