

## **E.E7 : What is the main source of power ? What contributes to make people powerful ?**

The power and authority exercised by a person or an institution over a person or a community of individuals.

It is expressed on a social and personal political level, which is why it can also be the source of conflicts within a community. It can thus lead to resistance and struggle on the part of groups which are excluded.

To illustrate this notion, I will talk about the power of money. Indeed, money is a form of power and often leads to conflicts. To what extent money is considered as a form of power? Firstly, we will see that money is a factor of materialism, then that it's also a factor of immigration and finally we will see that money is a cause of social inequalities.

### **I. Factor of materialism**

Money is a great power because it can help improve life, to make it comfortable. You have to have money to live properly. In this way, money often makes people too materialistic. We can see for example in a cartoon, during the Christmas season in a shopping center, a little boy who is sitting on the legs of Santa Claus and he is about to make him his wish list. At the same time, Santa Claus wants to give him his curriculum vitae by telling him that he will only take his wish list if the child gives his curriculum vitae to his father. We can guess that Santa Claus is unemployed and that he looks really desperate and exhausted. The little boy looks surprised because he is disappointed, his dreams are shattered. This scene is very sad, the spirit of Christmas is ruined because of the need for money, Christmas has become a business.

### **II. Immigration factor**

To have a better life, people often choose to immigrate. Migrants can be poor people who want to find prosperity in a developed country, they can also be qualified young people. The American dream in particular is a myth born from the desire for prosperity because America was seen and is still seen as a country where anyone can prosper thanks to his work and his courage, even if he starts from nothing. The American dream is a recurring subject in many films like The Immigrant of Charlie Chaplin, The Godfather.

### **III. Factor of social inequalities**

Indeed, developing and third world countries suffer from inequality and face significant economic problems. Some wealthy people do not share their wealth with people in need. Money caused selfishness and vanity. It separates people and creates injustice. If the rich countries do not face the problem, the gap between rich and poor will continue to widen.

To conclude, we can say that money has a great power over the world insofar as it is the factor of many conflicts like materialism, social inequalities. It also leads to corruption, to the rejection of others. Many people use money to assert their power, unfortunately in our societies, the more money you have the more power you have. For me, it's important to take a step back from money, you have to have limits.