

## Time to Flee: Scenario & Activity.

Civil War has broken out in Victoria. It is no longer safe for you and your family to remain here. You must flee your home with only 30 mins notice.

Your family meet together to have a hurried discussion. What are you going to do? Your family is in particular danger and some members feel that you should all flee.

It takes several hours to the nearest state border by car, but soldiers are patrolling the streets and road travel could be very dangerous. Travelling by foot would mean a whole week's journey through difficult terrain. The airport is already swamped and there are stories of people getting arrested or beaten while trying to buy plane tickets.

1. As a family, you must first decide **where** you will go and **how** you plan to get there. Do you have family or friends in nearby states? Would you rather try and leave the country in case war spills into other Australian states? You must hurry as states are starting to close their borders to arriving Victorians.

2. You must then decide what things you will take with you. As a group, you must agree on **15 things** that you will take with you (as a family, not 15 items each).

Think about the following things:

- What are your most treasured personal possessions that you want to take?
- What do you need to keep yourselves alive on a long journey?
- What will help you prove you are genuinely fleeing a bad situation?

Once everyone has agreed, write down the 15 items your family will take.

\*\* ONCE GROUPS HAVE COMPLETED 1 & 2 inform them to:

3. **Remove 5 items** from the list. The remaining items must all be something they could personally carry on a walk that could take them through rough terrain and last for days. Everyone in your group must agree about what's on the list.

4. After your group has finalised your list, report back to the class on where your family will go, how they will get there and why you made this choice. Explain the items you have included on your list and why.

- Some may suggest: food and water, a phrase book, their pet, a dictionary, a weapon, money or jewellery, a horse, tent, spade, torch, matches, warm waterproof clothes, bedding, address book, radio, TV, CD, washing things, toothpaste, passports or proof of identity, a map, family photographs, the death threat, the newspaper article

- A weapon might sound like a good idea – but it could get them into trouble or be used against them.

- Taking a passport might help them enter another country, but could lead to them being identified and forbidden to escape from their own country.
- Taking family photographs or an address book could be really important emotionally if they are never going to return to their home.
- Money/jewellery could possibly be used to bribe officials as they travel.
- Documentary evidence to support their claim for political asylum when they get to the border. Eg. This could be Dad's union card, the anonymous death threat, the newspaper article. This will be crucial proof to back up their story when they try to get asylum.

5. Discuss the items that are **NEEDS** and those that are **WANTS**.

6. Ask students to reflect on the activity on the 'Time To Flee Reflection' worksheet. Students can share responses with the class or the teacher can collect it for assessment.