 **Why Do People Migrate?**

**Push Factors**

* The social, political, economic, and environmental forces that drive people away from where they live;
* A natural disaster that claims lives and destroys communities;
* Political violence and war that threatens safety;
* Poor living conditions such as poverty.

**Examples of Push Factors**

* Nature can unleash tremendous energy;
* December 26, 2004 an earthquake created a tsunami that killed 230,000 people;
* In world news, there are always images of war or terrorism;
* An average 30 people die a day in Iraq from war and many more flee;
* Poverty can be made even worse by natural disasters and political violence.

**Pull Factors**

* The social, economic, and environmental attractions that draw people to move to a particular place;
* Some places score better on job prospects, safety, and discretionary income.

**Examples of Pull Factors**

* People may need to be evacuated to places where they can find shelter, food, medicine, and water;
* Refugee camps are built in neighbouring countries to remove people from danger;
* People constantly thrive to improve their living conditions;
* Canada gave away free land in the West to attract people here;
* Family reunification can occur when a couple immigrates to another country to be with family.

**Conclusion**

* As people immigrate, something called chain migration often happens;
* Young adults will emigrate to find work in a new country;
* They will send money home to help support direct family members left behind;
* They will also save money to help pay for the eventual immigration of additional family members.