

# THE CNMI CWS:

THE PROCESS TO IT ALL

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# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

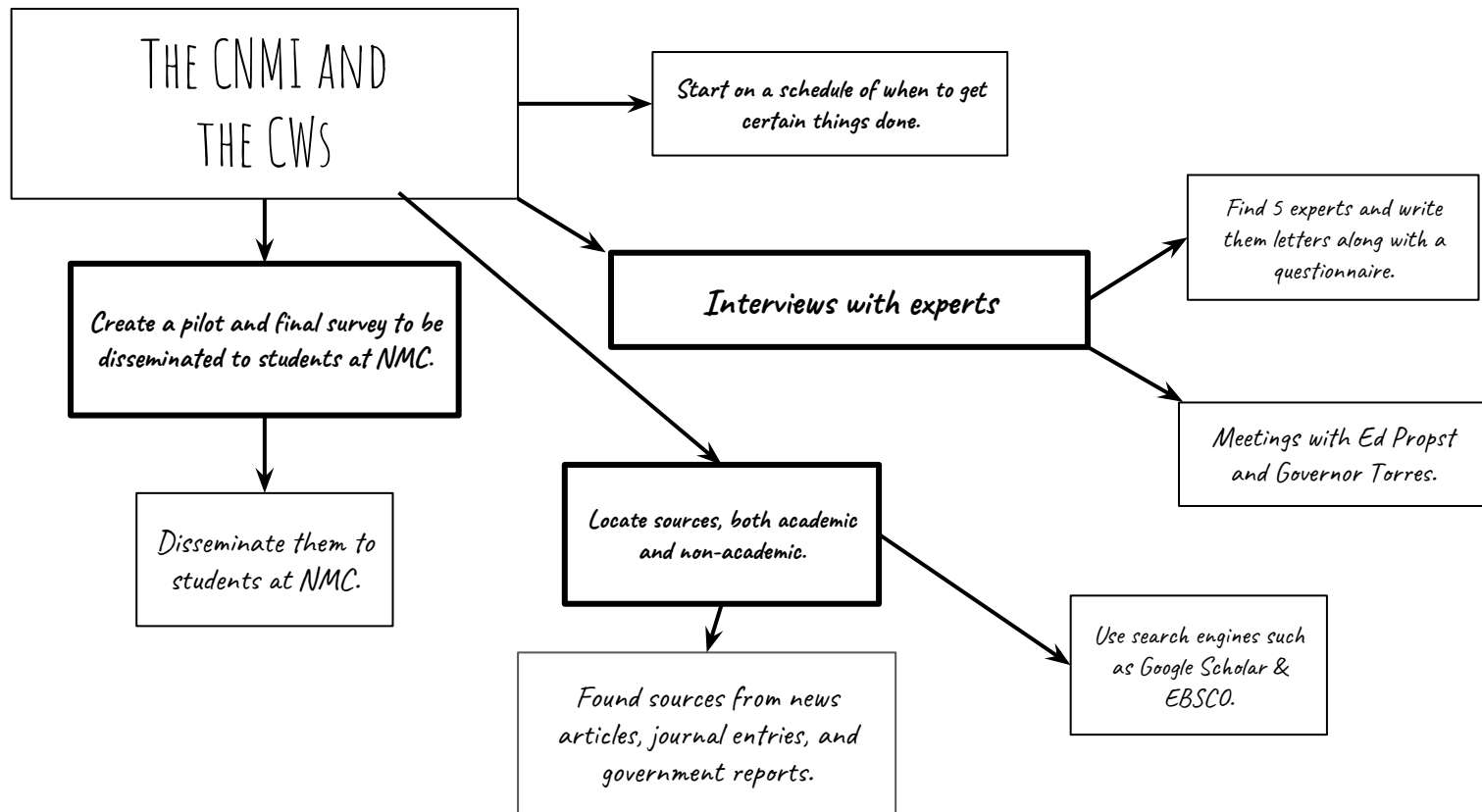
## Primary Question:

*Does the Marianas have enough experienced workers to fill the necessary spaces when the CWs leave?*

## Secondary Questions:

- 1. How can we continue the work within the absence of the CWs?*
- 2. Do we prioritize our locals more than our foreigners?*
- 3. If the CWs do leave, will this better the CNMI or will this slowly increase more issues that have already taken place?*

# SO, HERE'S HOW I FIGURED OUT HOW TO ACTUALLY GET MY ANSWERS...



# ABOUT THE SURVEYS

*I created two surveys: a pilot and a final.*

*Each survey was given to students at NMC via email. Students were allowed to answer how they please, and giving their own open-minded answers. They were mainly Chamorro or Filipino, where many of them were not children of contract workers. Most of them had agreed upon an extension, while others remained neutral. They almost all agreed upon the lack of local workers that the CNMI has. And lastly, they all stated what needs to be done in the workforce to actually make a better employment impact in the Marianas.*



# WHAT WAS ON THE SURVEYS?

## *Pilot Survey:*

- *Multiple choice, where the percentage of each question was high.*
- *80, and majority were both Chamorro and Filipino. The rest consisted of different nationalities.*
- *Of those ethnicities, almost all were not children of contract workers.*
- *Most chose to be mutual about the situation but others had believed that there was a lack of workers.*
- *Other individuals chose to say that we do need these workers and their time here is very critical.*



# WHAT WAS ON THE SURVEYS?

## Final Survey

1. Please indicate your ethnicity. (e.g. Chamorro)
2. Are you a child of a foreign worker?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
3. Are you born in the United States or outside of the U.S? Please indicate where. (e.g. Philippines)
4. How much and/or what do you know about the CWs?
5. I believe that the extension for foreign workers should be extended.
  - a. Strongly agree
  - b. Agree
  - c. Mutual
  - d. Strongly disagree
  - e. Disagree
6. In the time that the event may occur, I believe that our island needs the foreign workers.
  - a. Strongly agree
  - b. Agree
  - c. Mutual
  - d. Strongly disagree
  - e. Disagree
7. The Marianas lacks the training that many of our CWs have.
  - a. Strongly agree
  - b. Agree
  - c. Mutual
  - d. Strongly disagree
  - e. Disagree
8. The Marianas can thrive without the CWs.
  - a. Strongly agree
  - b. Agree
  - c. Mutual
  - d. Strongly disagree
  - e. Disagree
9. The Marianas will drastically change if an extension is not made.
  - a. Strongly agree
  - b. Agree
  - c. Mutual
  - d. Strongly disagree
  - e. Disagree
10. Do you think that the CWs bring good impact or bad impact towards the Marianas?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Mutual
11. During your time in the Marianas, what are the jobs that you have witnessed most CWs employed for?
12. Do you think that locals receive a higher paycheck than foreign workers?
  - a. Yes, locals receive a higher pay.
  - b. No, foreign workers receive a higher pay.
  - c. They receive equal pay.
  - d. I'm not sure/I'd rather not say.
13. If you agree that the Marianas lacks training, what can be done for our locals to give them the knowledge to apply for jobs like construction? (Skip if you disagreed).
14. If you disagree towards the lack of training in the Marianas, are we prepared to work through the cracks if the extension is not made? (Skip if you did not agree).
15. Do we prioritize our locals over these foreign workers? Or are we fighting for the two?
16. Are you satisfied with the work that our CWs have done? Why or why not?
17. How can we help the families with parents that are CWs?

*This survey was distributed to a total of 123 people. Again, majority were either Chamorro and Filipino who were not children of contract workers. From questions 5 to 10 were for people to agree or disagree, it goes to show that the Marianas desperately needs these CWs. However, from questions 11 to 17, were more for opinionated answers and if the Marianas can allow for the locals to gain training, so that when an extension does not occur, we can thrive.*

# WHAT QUESTIONS ARE ASKED TO THE EXPERTS?

1. How free should the importation of foreign workers be? Do you believe that it is to a country's benefit to limit the importation of foreign workers or open their doors completely to them? How do you think this applies to the US mainland and to the islands in the CNMI?
2. Suppose a foreign worker was to leave the CNMI, are foreign workers with the CW status now to travel out of the CNMI? Are they automatically able to enter again on the visa they held or must they re-apply for the appropriate visa to re-enter the premises?
3. Based on your opinion, how does the CNMI only CW visa program impact international and trade affairs in the Pacific? And does it impact the US mainland?
4. In your opinion, what are the impacts on society and families of temporary work programs used as long term residency programs for foreign workers? What are the impacts on the workers, their families and the countries they work in? Particularly, from your experience in the U.S. and any knowledge you may have about the Pacific?

→ *Two questions were unable to be answered due to a certain policy.*

→ *The expert's assistant emailed me other sources that I could use in attempting to answer these questions.*

# WHAT QUESTIONS ARE ASKED TO THE EXPERTS?

1. In the time that the event may occur, does the Marianas have enough experienced workers to fill the necessary spaces when these foreign workers leave? Why or why not?
2. Are we, the Marianas, prepared to survive through these circumstances?
3. Personal opinion: do you support the extension for contract workers or do you believe that the extension should not be extended? Why or why not?

→ *When emailing this to the experts, I had no issues. They were both very helpful and actually wanted me the overall repost of my essay.*



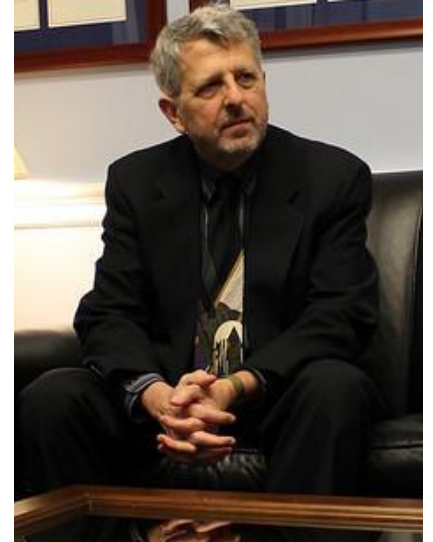
# WHO ARE THE EXPERTS THOUGH?

1. *Honorable Ralph DLG Torres*
2. *Representative Edwin K. Propst*
3. *Mr. David Gootnick*
4. *Dr. Oliver Richard*



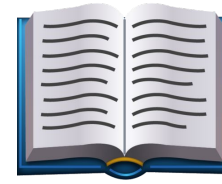
*Emil Friberg Jr. was the individual who answer my questions in the absence of Mr. Gootnick and Dr. Richard.*

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# SO, WHAT'S THE LITERATURE?



*The reading notes depicted show what was found when locating sources. As seen, most of the information was from a new article by Sarah Perez and the Government Accountability Office.*

1. Author's Name: David Gootnick/Oliver Richard
2. Author's Credentials: International Affairs and Trade Director
3. Heading of Section: Government Accountability Office: Immigration Laws
4. Year Written: 2017
5. Pages: 97

Main Ideas/Points	Important Quotations	Supporting Details	Relevance to Your Assignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CNMI relies more on our CWs than our own locals.</li> <li>• Great increase in population</li> <li>• Businesses closed down.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "The CNMI economy became dependent on foreign labor"</li> <li>• "from 1980 to 2000, the CNMI Cws grew rapidly"</li> <li>• "After a decade of decline, by 2009, almost all garment factories had closed."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employers hire more CWs due to the advancement for certain jobs.</li> <li>• Employers increase in foreign employees.</li> <li>• GDP reflected the declining garment factory.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CWs are needed now more than before.</li> <li>• Locals need to find more time to train themselves.</li> <li>• Less locals get employed.</li> <li>• International trade caused the industry to decline dramatically, due to lack of workers again.</li> </ul>

Article was not biased, was a reputable and an academic source.

1. Author's Name: Sarah Perez
2. Publisher: Saipan Tribune
3. Heading of Section [title of reading]: *If all foreign workers leave...*
4. Year Written: 2017
5. Pages: 1
6. Website URL: [https:// www.saipantribune.com/index.php/foreign-workers-leave/](https://www.saipantribune.com/index.php/foreign-workers-leave/)

Main Ideas/Points	Important Quotations	Supporting Details	Relevance to Your Assignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are all equal, and should have equity rather than to deliberate who should stay.</li> <li>• The CWs do get hired more than our locals and are employed more in the workforce</li> <li>• Locals barely get credited for the things that they do but that is only because we do try our best.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "This is not a simple us versus them problem. Everyone is involved. Everyone is affected."</li> <li>• "Some say they do not need CWs here. They say CWs are taking away the job from the locals."</li> <li>• "What about the children of the CWs that represent the islands [...] That is still CNMI pride right there."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We shouldn't be defensive and point out the wrong and the right. We should fight that the equality for ALL.</li> <li>• In order for this to not seem as demeaning as it already does, our love need to put more effort into training themselves.</li> <li>• The CNMI is able to their numbers up, practice does make perfect.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CNMI may not need these workers but right now, they do. We should let them in and train our locals in the process.</li> <li>• Locals and CWs both argue over who had a higher rate of employment. People have agreed that these foreigners are the root to our success, but also a threat to those who are not able to become employed.</li> <li>• Children of CWs have the advantage of putting our island out there and we must credit that, same our local</li> </ul>

Article was not biased, was a reputable and an academic source.



# IDENTIFY THE DIFFICULTIES

## Strengths💪

- *People of the CNMI were very active in the topic*
- *Most actually gave me tips on what I could add to my research.*
- *There was a ton of background information every time I located a source.*

## Weaknesses👎

- *Most sources were repetitive.*
- *More experts could have been found, but most were not interested in explaining more about the issue from an outside view.*
- *Literature sources were mainly non-academic sources, barely enough academic sources.*
- *Sources barely gave me answers to what I needed, so I had to change my question.*

# WHAT WAS LEARNED? WHAT WAS FELT?

*I actually felt glad that I attempted to conduct this research. I learned that we, the locals and foreigners, both what the Marianas to thrive. In order fo that to happen, we need to work together and our locals must find a way to train to the same advancement as the foreigners. I learned that the unemployment rate could be at the number one in the nation, if we find a way to raise the numbers.*



# FUTURE PLANS ON TOPIC

*Regardless of how interesting the topic was, I do not plan on research further. However, I do plan to review the updates on the topic every now and then. I do hope that the Marianas drastically changes, in a good way!*



# 🤔 SUGGESTIONS? 🤔

- *Be sure to have more than five experts.*
- *READ the literature, you could find out more the I did.*
- *Talk to people, ask them these questions, you never know they could actually answer the questions that you have.*
- *If all else fails, PICK ANOTHER TOPIC!!!*

