

Do not have truck with the Devil

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Truck (camión) you may know. A similar word is lorry.

The word “truck” also is a verb and it means to exchange, to barter (trocar) or to deal with (tratar con). This verb goes back many moons, back to the 14th century in England, whereas “truck”, as in wagon for transporting goods, is relatively new.

“Truck with” is normally used in the negative, as in “no truck with”, so the context is to have nothing to do with something, an organisation or person.

Examine these examples:

- Mr. Starmer wants nothing to do with the left wing of the British Labour party = Mr. Starmer wants no truck with the left wing of the Labour party. In Spanish you might say that Mr. Starmer “no quiere tener nada que ver con la izquierda del partido laborista”.
- You should have no truck with the devil (el diablo) = you should have no dealings with the Devil.
- We should have no truck with terrorism (...ningún trato con el terrorismo).

So, what or whom do you have no truck with? Corrupt politicians? The mafia? Perhaps you could make up a list.