



Case Study Three

Date: _____

Names: _____

Recently, five college students created a project to determine how high school students feel about immigrants since the September 11 terrorist attacks. These college students were instructed by their teacher to interview students from several different high schools and produce a video to show what they learned. Ultimately, they decided to hold a discussion between immigrant and native students in school libraries.

The college students learned suburban students knew very little about immigrants and the effect 9/11 might have on them. Reactions from suburban students were quite different. Some native students were angry at immigrants and religious minorities. Others showed concern for the safety of immigrants. Most immigrant students were worried about themselves and their families.

At one high school the group was not allowed to hold its discussion because the administrator was worried that it would create tension and resentment between immigrant and non-immigrant students. The school had already experienced problems in the past and the college students noticed that “non-white” students were often checked more carefully at the school entrance.

Please respond to the following questions on the back or on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Name two issues in this scenario.
2. Identify where power is at play. Who has it? How are they using it?
3. How many stakeholders or players are there in this scenario? What are some possible interests of the “players”?
4. Describe the accountability of each group. What are they responsible for or to?
5. In what way is the administrator practicing politics?
6. What is the public work being done in this story?
7. Is there free space available to discuss this issue openly?