

# WHO IS AFFECTED?

**Grade level:** 4-9  
**Time:** 45 minutes

## WHAT IS IT?

In this exercise students identify the causes and the effects of an issue.

**MATERIALS:** Flip chart paper, markers

## ACTIVITIES/STEPS:

- 1) Divide students into small groups assigning each an issue.
- 2) Each group makes a poster for their issue that will show who is causing the problem and who it affects. The posters should have three columns: issue, cause, and effect.
- 3) Answer the following for each heading:
  - a. Issue:
    - What is the issue?
    - Why is it a problem?
    - What might happen if changes are made?
    - What might happen if changes aren't made?
  - b. Cause:
    - How have individuals been the cause of this issue?
    - How have businesses and private organizations been the cause?
    - How have government agencies been the cause of this issue?
  - c. Effect:
    - How does this issue affect the global community?
    - How does this issue affect the environment?
    - How does this issue affect you locally?
- 4) After creating their posters, each group presents their issue to the class. They may want to try to convince the students to choose that issue for a PA project or create comparisons/contrasts between the issues.

## EVALUATION:

Class discussion regarding causes and effects of issues.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Write a fictional story of how this issue came to be and what the future holds for it. Do a 'Choose Your Own Adventure' ending that includes the issue's future with and without the efforts of Public Achievement.
- 2) A graph or map of how these issues affect each other and how they affect the same groups of community members

**Source:** Adapted from Jennie Higgins; Earth Force Toolbox, Segment 2