Who is Affected?

Objectives:

- Identify the causes and the effects of an issue.

Curricular Connections: Civics

Materials: Flip chart paper, markers

Procedure:

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.

Reflection:

- Class discussion regarding causes and effects of issues.

Assessment:

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