



Is it Newsworthy?

Objective:

Participants will gain an understanding of the magnitude of hunger and poverty. They will learn that 30,000 children die every day due to poverty related issues.

Set up and Materials:

- Recent newspapers and magazines from around the world or country. Reputable news websites if web accessibility.
- Divide group into teams of 3 or 4. Give each team news print media sources.

Activity Instructions:

Give each team newspapers, magazines, and access to web media sources. Have the teams review the print media sources and read interesting articles and headlines. Facilitate discussion to share what they found to be interesting. Take a poll to decide the most interesting headline!

Discuss what we find most appealing in the media and what gets attention in the news.

- Where are you most likely to get your news? (TV, radio, internet, newspaper)
- What type of stories do you expect to see on the front page of a newspaper?
- Which sections of a newspaper or on-line news source do you read?

Transition into the poverty part of the lesson with these suggestions:

- What if I told you that all of these news sources were missing the biggest story of the day? Could you guess what it is?
- **The biggest story of the day is that 30,000 children die every day due to poverty related causes.** (Source: 2005 U.N. World Summit, Poverty Delegation Report)
- “Do you think the fact that 30,000 children dying a day from a completely curable, treatable and preventable cause is newsworthy? Why isn’t that in the news? What can you do to give these children a voice?”

Try this!

Have participants generate headlines and new stories about Hunger Challenge, Outreach International, or Poverty.

Encourage them to interview each other and include real quotes. Give them cameras to take pictures of one another, or a video camera to let them re-enact a newscast. Assign roles: anchor, director, interviewee.

Send them to safe houses in the neighborhood to interview people about their knowledge of poverty in order to write a news story.