



Discussion Starters and Talking Points

Poverty

- Talk about what absolute poverty and relative poverty are
- Talk about the different factors that cause poverty worldwide
- Discuss the stigma and stereotypes of poverty
- What can be done to help to end global poverty?
- Discuss the Millennium Development Goals
- Talk about Microfinance

Find more information on [Global Poverty](#)

Convention on the Rights of the Child

- Talk about what the Convention on the Rights of the Child is and what it says
- Discuss what two countries failed to ratify the Convention and why
- Discuss why a document describing children's rights is necessary
- Talk about who checks to see if countries are meeting the standard

Find information on [the Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

HIV/AIDS

- Explain the difference between HIV and AIDS
- Explain ways to contract the virus
- Talk about the stigmas infected people and their families face
- What areas of the world are most affected
- Discuss treatments that are available – Anti Retro Virals (ARVs) and Nevirapine
- Talk about successful programs
 - Hope for African Children Initiative
 - Uganda's Post Test Clubs

Find information on [HIV and AIDS facts](#) on and [Post Test Clubs](#)

Child Exploitation

Child Soldiers

- Explain what a child soldier is
- Discuss why children join combat
- Discuss challenges the children face

- Discuss different roles boys and girls have
- Discuss which countries use child soldiers
- Discuss what happens to the children after they are done fighting in combat
- Discuss how universal birth registration can help
- Discuss Plans programs in Sierra Leone and Columbia

Find information on [Child Soldiers](#)

Child Trafficking

- Discuss what child trafficking is
- Discuss the reasons why children are trafficked all over the world
- Discuss the causes of child trafficking i.e. Poverty, lack of jobs, etc.
- Discuss what jobs trafficked children are forced to do
- Talk about the reasons why universal birth registration can help prevent trafficking
- Discuss Plan's programs and Solutions projects

Find more information on [Child Trafficking](#)

Child Labor

- Describe what child labor is
- Discuss why poor children are at risk
- Talk about legal ages for children to work
- Discuss the difference between household chores and labor
- Discuss what types of labor children are forced to do
- Talk about conditions that child laborers are forced to work in
- Talk about the issue of child labor in the U.S. – is it the same or different as child labor in other countries.
- Discuss Plan programs that reduce child labor
- Discuss how alleviating poverty helps reduce child labor

Find more information on [Child Labor](#)

Climate Change

- Discuss what climate change is and how it is caused
- Discuss way in which human behavior affects the environment
- Explore different types of alternative energy and sustainable development
- Talk about ways in which climate change affects children
- Talk about ways that changes can be made to help the environment
- Look at the effects of the climate crisis around the world
- Talk about Plan efforts to combat climate change

Find out more about [Climate Change](#)