



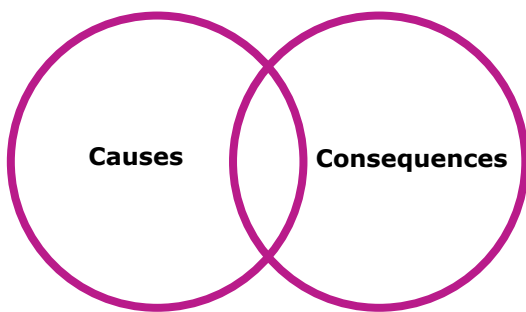
Poverty: Causes and Consequences

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Materials to make Venn diagram (e.g. hoops, skipping ropes or whiteboard + pens)
- Clue cards: poor health, impacts of natural disasters, corruption, hunger, war, history, greed, climate change, geography, slum communities, limited access to education, unemployment, exploitation.
- Country factsheets – <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Secondary-teaching-resources/Country-guides>
- Paper and pens
- Prayer outlines to display if appropriate

WARM UP

Game: Cause/Consequence charades



Make or draw a large Venn diagram

Play charades (one young person silently acting, others guess) or Pictionary (one young person silently drawing, others guess) with the clue cards.

After each clue is guessed, decide whether it is a cause of poverty, a consequence of poverty or both, then place it on the Venn diagram. Use a mixture of asking the whole group, paired discussion and voting. Reasoning is more important than "correct" answers!

WARM UP

Notes:

- Discussing the 'history' clue might include: countries being the colony of another country; the slave trade; conflicts etc.
- Discussing the 'geography' clue might include: climate; geographical barriers to trade; limited/abundant natural resources etc.
- No need to get the "correct" answers; the aim is to stimulate deep thinking about causes and consequences of poverty, drawing out the complexity and cyclic nature of poverty.
- No need to use all the clues; choose those things that will get your group thinking and discussing.

ACTIVITY

In small groups, read through and highlight a country factsheet. Make a Venn diagram with causes and consequences.

Prepare two short prayers to feedback to the whole group: one on a cause and one about a consequence.

Notes:

Some young people may find it difficult to write (or spontaneously say) a prayer. Consider simplifying this task by giving them some simple outlines, e.g.:

- Merciful Father, we bring to mind Help them ... Amen
- God of justice, we pray for ... Guide us to ... Amen
- We ask God's Spirit to bless ... with Amen

Challenge young people to recognise that God's response may well be to encourage us (and others) to take action, challenge injustice, live simply and generously.

WRAPPING UP

Ask young people to discuss in pairs/small groups then feed back:
For us, today's session was about
One thing we'll remember is