



[ArchLA.org/RespectLifeWeek](http://ArchLA.org/RespectLifeWeek)

**Day 4 Lesson Plan**  
**Thursday, October 3, 2013**  
**Mathematics**

**Title:** How Does this Affect Me? An Exploration of Poverty

**Grades:** 6–8; 9–12

**Timeframe:** One class period with service-learning follow-up

**Overview:** Day 4 of a 5-day project.

**Essential Questions:**

What is meant by preferential option for the poor?

What is our personal and cultural responsibility toward the poor and poverty?

How does our definition of who constitutes “the poor” shape our ideas for solutions to poverty?

**What will the student learn:**

Students will learn explore what is meant by poverty. They will look at both extreme poverty, such as exists in certain developing parts of the world. They will also look at practical poverty, such as we have in the US in which even working families struggle to make ends meet and fall further and further behind. Finally, students will be introduced to the concept of development as a process improving not only a person’s socio-economic situation, but also improving their emotional, intellectual, and spiritual opportunities as well.

**Student Resources:**

Student handout provides reading and questions that students can answer individually, in discussion groups, or as essay questions.

Videos (see links on website) reinforce themes.

**Activities:**

Students are offered several suggestions of positive, life-affirming service activities that they can do either individually, with their class, as an entire school, or in conjunction with their parish. These activities are age-appropriate and will all count for service hours.

**Assessment:**

Students can be assessed on activities or discussion/essay questions as appropriate for each class.

**Additional Teaching Resources:**

See website for Resources