

<p><b>Step 1 Description</b></p> <p>I watched the short video titled, "Poor Kids," and it included stories of three different families who were experiencing poverty. The children of the families were interviewed, and they each shared what being poor meant to them and how growing up poor affected them. It was a difficult video to watch. We really do not know what poverty feels like unless you have experienced it. However, the children sharing their stories painted a picture so vivid that you could feel if just an ounce of their hurt and struggles.</p>	<p><b>Step 4 Analysis</b></p> <p>A broader issue here is that in order to prevent poverty, there must be more job availabilities out there for parents. I know there are already many resources out there, but some parents are not deposed to them. Parents might not have travel to get to these places that offer services and resources. It was a real eye opener to listen to the different testimonies from different perspectives. At times the video would show how the parents were dealing with poverty, then it would show older siblings talk about poverty, and of course you got the children's perspectives. They all had their own way of dealing with their struggles, and obviously you saw more pain from the parents because many of them felt scared and hopeless.</p>
<p><b>Step 2 Feelings</b></p> <p>It definitely saddened me listening to these kids' testimonies. You wish there were something you could do for not only these kiddos but all children who suffer from poverty. Some kids despite losing everything or some of their favorite things, still have a sense of hope. Or some of these kids, being in poverty, doesn't allow it to change what sweet and hopeful kids they are. It's heartbreaking to hear the children they hope their parents could get a job, so they won't lose their home. I can't imagine how heartbreaking it must be for those parents. I would assume they feel as if they've let their children down. After hearing some of the children's testimonies, I feel somewhat relieved because some of the children are still so cheerful and innocent as kids that poverty hasn't taken that away from them.</p>	<p><b>Step 5 Conclusion</b></p> <p>There are several things that I've learned from viewing this video. The first thing is, that we never know what internal struggles people are facing. Especially precious children. You never know if they are the one experiencing hunger and poverty. And if we do encounter a child or family that needs help, we should try and help them if we can, and if we are not capable, we can direct them to the appropriate resources. The second thing I have learned is that we need to lend more helping hands. We need to become involved in our community and donate items to places such as the Salvation Army or foods to the food bank. Lastly, it has made me extremely grateful for the things I've been blessed with. Just as a child in the video mentioned, you never know what you have until its gone. He was referring to cable and internet, but its so true about just the simplest things such as warm water or electricity.</p>
<p><b>Step 3 Evaluation</b></p> <p>What was bad to hear about in the video is that some children did not know what it was like to experience three meals a day. They don't know what its like to have a good hearty breakfast or yummy lunch, or a big warm meal at dinner. It's difficult to hear that a child is starving. And when they don't eat, they feel droopy and weak. No child should ever have to say those words. It's also difficult to learn that the U.S. has one of the highest child poverty rates in the world. How can that be? America is supposed to give hope and dreams to people. You should be able to prosper in America and have a better life. The good thing is that there are outlets and programs in place currently to help children in poverty. I think there should be more programs to help the parents so that the children do not have to be in this place in the first place.</p>	<p><b>Step 6 Action Plan</b></p> <p>As previously mentioned, I think a way of reducing the number of children in poverty begins with special programs and resources to help their parents. If the parents can be helped by being able to attain good paying jobs, then we fix the first step in poverty. Having programs placed in schools such as the Nutrition Club as was showed in the video, provides some relief to parents about supplying food for their children. It's not a permanent fix to their hunger, but at least no kid will go hungry or say things like, "I'm starving" or "when I don't eat, I feel weak and sick". It was a depressing video to sit through but an eye opener, too. To see how poverty affects children through their eyes really puts things into perspective.</p>

