

NATIONAL DISCUSSION AND DEBATE SERIES: HEALTH CARE

Lesson Three: Health Care Interviews

Overview:

Despite some attempts to personalize the health care debate, people's individual stories tend to get lost among politically charged reform plans and complex jargon. Interviews allow students to hear local perspectives on the health care debate and put a personal face on a national issue.

Time: 45-55 minutes

Objectives:

Students will:

1. Understand how the current health insurance system impacts people in the local community.
2. Analyze national suggestions for health care reform and compare them to local suggestions

Materials:

- Health care Interview Form
- Index Cards
- [The Right to Health Care and The Role of Government in Health Policy](http://webstorage3.mcpa.virginia.edu/debates/whitepaper/deb_2008_0409_health_care.pdf)
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Procedure:

Before Class:

1. Assign students to interview one person about her or his experiences with the current health care system and her or his views on health care reform. If students have access to cameras, ask them to take a photo of the person they interview. (Note: Be sure that students ask permission to photograph the person and to post the photograph.) Students will use the Health care Interview Form to guide the interview.

During Class:

www.pbs.org/newshour/extra

<http://millercenter.org/public/debates/healthcare>

1. Students will summarize the interview on an index card (See Below). Hang index cards and photos (if available) on a clothesline around the classroom or in the hallway.

Name – Photo

Favorite Quote

Problems/Challenges with Current Health care System

Suggestions for Reform

Thoughts/Insights

2. Allow students to walk around the room to view all of the cards. As students walk around the room, ask them to record their favorite quote, the most common problems people have with the health care system, and the most common suggestions for reform.
3. When all students are seated, ask them to share their favorite quotes. On the board make a list of the most common problems people have with the current health care system. Make a second list of the most common suggestions for reform. What questions or insights do students have after viewing the interview cards?
4. Read Section V of [The Right to Health Care and The Role of Government in Health Policy](#) individually. How does the white paper overview of challenges to and suggestions for health care reform compare with what students heard in the interviews?

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Health care Interview

Date:

Person Interviewed:

Questions:

1. What do you do for a living?
2. Do you have health insurance? If so, what type of insurance plan do you have?
3. Are you satisfied with the care you receive?
4. Are you satisfied with the cost of your insurance?
5. Explain one positive experience, if any, you have had with your health insurance.
6. Explain one negative experience, if any, you have had with your health insurance.
7. What do you see as the main problems with the current health care system in the United States?
8. What suggestions do you have to reform the current health care system?
9. Would you be in favor of universal health insurance in the United States? If so, how do you propose it should be financed? If not, why not?
10. What other thoughts would you like to share about the health care system in America?

Your Favorite Quote From the Interview:

Thoughts and Observations:

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