

The Ripple Effect

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1. Think about the “ripple effect” of consequences of September 11, 2001. How did that day affect you, your family, friends, neighbors, community, and the world.
2. Write your ideas in the “ripples.” See the next page, which can be used as a handout or as a model for use on newsprint.
3. Share with a partner or a small group. Do you have any ideas in common? Are we still experiencing effects? If so, how?
4. How did this exercise make you feel? Are you interested in taking action around any of the negative consequences of September 11? Look at some of the other articles in Issue #33 for ideas. See p. 54, “Resources for Action and Reflection.”

When students in ESOL classes at Make the Road New York in Queens reflected on the ripple effects of September 11, 2001, this is what people said:

Effects on me

Sad
 Scared
 Shock
 Confused because I didn't understand what was happening
 Disbelief
 Panic
 Worried about my family and friends who worked near the towers
 I lost my job
 I had to apply for food stamps

Effects on my friends, family, neighbors, and community

Afraid
 Suspicious
 Nervous about flying
 Empty restaurants, closed stores
 Less travel and tourism
 The workers who helped clean up are now sick
 My family in my country was worried about me
 The president stopped helping immigrants; immigration reform was not possible
 Many people can't stop remembering that day
 people died

Effects on the world

More security everywhere (public places, work, the border)
 More police, more control
 More discrimination and racism, hate crimes
 More fear of Islam and immigrants
 Racial profiling
 Changes in immigration laws, more checks on immigrants, more checking papers
 More difficult to get visas
 More raids
 Creation of the Department of Homeland Security
 Higher prices (metrocards, gas, food)
 Less work, no jobs
 Economy was bad
 more wars: Iraq, Afghanistan. people die every day
 Lose a lot of money in the war
 Broken relationships with other countries because of the war
 lies of the US government
 Companies laid off people
 Budget cuts to schools and community programs
 marches for peace, protests

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The Ripple Effect:
Consequences of
September 11,
2011

