



# How To Write a Reflection Paper **Reflection of Angela Jones' Lecture on Poverty**

The lecture started off with a quote: "If we can conquer space, we can conquer world hunger." - Buzz Aldrin. This already got me thinking that we have sent humans and animals to space. It is possible to survive in the infinite vacuum we know as space, but, billions of people barely survive on Earth! This made me feel pity for the starving children and families in third world countries.

During the lecture, I learnt that so many countries around the world do not have access to clean water, medical services and the most basics of education. Around 22,000 of children die from poverty every day, globally. And 1.2 billion of the world's population are living in extreme conditions. It was so depressing to hear about this, I felt true sorrow when hearing this.

It is shocking considering that in our country, we all have access to clean water, food, medical care, education - plus a lot more. I felt and truly feel saddened by learning about the way these people are forced to live. Not only is it in a few countries, but it is in dozens of countries. Primarily in South America, Africa and Asia. Also, some European countries are living in almost extreme living conditions.

Our guest professor, Angela Jones, from the University of Austin, has witnessed this type of poverty first-hand. She showed us videos of herself helping poor children in the country of Djibouti in Africa. They all were so young, and skin and bones. It is so sad to see this. I can't imagine what it must be like for them. But, I can imagine how shocked and saddened the volunteers on the video were. I, myself, felt this way just by watching the video.

During the lecture, Angela asked us to brainstorm ways to support these children in Djibouti and other third world countries. This made me feel a sense of enjoyment and relief because we were thinking of ways we can help save millions of lives. I could hear so many people muttering to themselves probably the same thoughts as I, “what could we do to help them except for physically going to that country to support them?”.

Angela then showed us another video of a lady helping a 2-year-old, skin and bones boy. This transitioned to another piece of footage, which was taken 3 years later. The boy was 5 years old, clothed and looked healthy. He also had a backpack on his back for school. This made me feel so happy for this boy and sad for all of the other boys who don't get the help they need.

I also learnt that it does not take that much effort to help children in the third world. It actually takes very little time and resources. All we have to do is get together to raise a money for a charity which provides the things that these children do not have access to at all. It's so amazing that with so little can mean so much - it is also so sad that most people don't recognize this (or don't want to).

Later on, Angela showed us some videos which illustrated how some countries used to be the third world - but are now no longer that way. They began pretty much the same as countries such as Djibouti. She showed us how some countries were once under poverty and their transformations due to foreign aid. This is brilliant. I felt a sense of amazement by seeing how the people of those countries are no longer in extreme conditions.

In conclusion, there is no excuse for not supporting children and families who are in desperate need around the world. Even the most minimal effort can change the lives of so many unfortunate people. We need to change our attitudes for the sake of the world. No one should be forced to live in poverty. So many children die every day. It is truly shocking and this depresses me the most about the whole situation.

It is amazing that some countries have managed to bounce back from poverty thanks to foreign aid. We need to support children and families even more in order to battle against poverty. It is so saddening and I feel true sorrow as well as pity for these people who are the most unfortunate in the world. We need to act upon this now, and the fact that some countries are no longer facing poverty is no excuse.