

Speaker 1 Well often, when they are discussing issues, or current events when there's things going on in the world that may not, at first thought, affect us because it's insubstantial, but it does actually, because it's a connected world, there's global issues, you know. The recent event of the collapse of the clothing factory, you know, in another country, you think, well that doesn't really affect us. Well it does because our retailers use those factories. We buy clothes from those factories. It does affect us. And you know, there's natural disasters that have happened in the world in recent time, such as Haiti. And we bring those issues to the students say, "Hey, how does this affect us?" Maybe we should be helping in a certain way, not just in raising money, which they do, but in other ways in advocacy to support a third world countries and to bring important issues like education and the gender issues of equal access to education, issues of homophobia where not only locally but internationally where we think that there are problems here, well in some countries you can get killed for your sexuality. And so these are important things that they, it's the global web and they do affect us and these are very important discussions because in the end it's all about human rights. So international human rights are also local human rights. And these are very important discussions for students to have.

Speaker 2 Yeah, I was gonna say that you know, they gain the sense that the world is big, but it's actually opposite. They gain the sense that the world is actually really small, and that they are very connected in this world, like my colleague was saying. I mean in terms of this global village, right? I mean you are only a click away from actually connecting with the opposite sides of the world. And then beyond that figuring out how big they are, right? I mean how little this world is but how big they are in that role in the world and how much they can impact in those choices, those individual choices that they make. How they can impact not just their own surroundings but the surroundings all over the world. And I think that's what, you know, is the big message of our clubs, is the fact that, you know, you're a big part of this. It's a small world, it's getting smaller, and you're a big part of it. It's important.

Speaker 3 I think that to add on to what \_\_\_ said there is that a lot of the problems that we face in the world seem absolutely overwhelming. Often when students find out, for example, about climate change or they find out about, ah, you know some of the really catastrophic things that are happening, uh, on a global level, that they feel overwhelmed to some extent. By joining a group of other students and working on a project that maybe has a very small kind of part within that, they can realize that the way to actually change the whole of the system is actually to do one step at a time, to compartmentalize them, to chunk it, to actually do things in a manageable way. And clubs allow students to gain a sense of empowerment over, and hope over some of the issues that are in the world by confronting things in a more manageable manner.

Speaker 4 In ESL Ambassador's club we often bring together people who are from diverse backgrounds and sometimes nations who have, are in conflict with each other or different ethnic groups or languages. So it's an opportunity to sort of leave behind those conflicts and those tensions and build something new.