

Daily Curriculum – June 5

Media Literacy Question of the Day:

What questions might you want to ask about the results of a poll discussed in a news program?

Key Concepts: Identify or explain these subjects you heard about in today's show:

1. propaganda
2. "the American Dream"
3. desalination

Fast Facts: How well were you listening to today's program?

1. According to the video, who was released in exchange for U.S. Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl? What is the Taliban? What does a new Taliban video show about the release of Bergdahl? How has the Taliban characterized the prisoner exchange? Who has been critical of the exchange? How has the Obama administration responded to this criticism?
2. According to the report: When have prisoner exchanges been conducted in the past? What were the circumstances behind some of these exchanges? How is this latest prisoner exchange different?
3. How long has it been since the Great Recession ended? According to the report: Is it still having an impact? Explain. What is "the American Dream"? According to participants in a recent CNN Money poll: Is the American Dream attainable? Who is the most pessimistic? What do participants think about the likelihood that young Americans will be better off than their parents? Why are some experts critical of the poll's findings?
4. What percentage of the Earth is covered with water? What is desalination? What are the challenges to conducting desalination on a large scale? Where is the largest desalination plant in the Western Hemisphere being constructed? What is the approximate cost of this plant? How many customers could benefit from this plant? What is brine? What happens to the brine that is removed from the water? How do company officials at the Carlsbad plant say its energy use will differ from the amount of energy typically used at other plants? What do critics say about this plant?

Discussion Questions:

1. What might be some reasons for publicizing video of a prisoner release?
2. How would you define "the American Dream"? In your opinion, is the American Dream attainable? State your rationale. What are your expectations for your financial future? Why?
3. Has your community ever experienced drought conditions? If so, how did they impact daily life? How did the community deal with the water shortage? If not, what does your community do to assure that there is an ample water supply?