The events of 9/11 have greatly affected me. That morning, I watched the television. I saw the second plane crash into the Twin Towers in New York City. I felt so sad, especially for the people who did not hear from their family members and friends.

The events of 9/11 continue to personally affect me. When I make a decision to travel by airplane, my thoughts go back to 9/11. Sometimes I become nervous. I re-live the sad memories. Moreover, when I come to the airport, I have to take off my shoes, and the security officers scan my whole body. It makes me feel very uncomfortable to go through the whole security procedure.

Tragedies can happen without warning. We need to make sure that we don’t take people or life for granted. We need to embrace our loved ones who live close by. We need to write or call our loved ones who live far away.

**The Ripple Effect**

**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?

**Using the diagram** on the right as a model, write your ideas in the “ripples.” Share with a partner or a small group. Are we still experiencing effects? If so, how?

**How did this exercise** make you feel? Are you interested in taking action around on issues related to 9/11? See p. 54 for some resources and action ideas.

See an expanded version of this lesson plan by Abigail Ellman of We Make the Road NewYork at <www.nelrc.org/changeagent/extras>, where a larger version of the ripple diagram is also available.