Anne M. Ho* (aho@coastal.edu), Conway, SC, and Tara T. Craig (tcraig@coastal.edu), Conway, SC. Triangles, Squares, and Segregation: Introducing social issues through math. Preliminary report.

Although a mathematics class is not the typical place for discussions on race and society, the fact that all students must take math means that it can be an ideal location to introduce students to important social issues and values. We adapt "Parable of the Polygons" (Vi Hart and Nicky Case), an online simulation on diversity and segregation, into an appropriate math circles session, which ran at the Coastal Carolina University Math Teachers' Circle in December. The session is interactive, and offers multiple layers of content depending on the age and comfort level of students with conversations on social issues. These levels include: (1) a basic introduction to game theory, (2) an invitation for students to think about the benefits of diverse groups, and (3) a discussion of how individual biases, no matter how small, can lead to detrimental societal effects like segregation. (Received September 19, 2016)