October 1, 2014

Dear London Health Department,

My name is Dr. Snow. I have been investigating in the Cholera epidemic recently and I believe I have found the cause. I have noticed that the deaths came mostly from houses located near a certain public water pump that lots of people enjoy drinking from. Two of the main water companies, Lambeth and S & V, get their water from the same river. Lambeth recently moved up the river, though. The S & V Water Company supplied 40,046 houses and there were 1,263 deaths from those houses. The Lambeth Water Company supplied 26,107 houses and there were only 98 deaths from those houses. The rest of London have 256,423 houses and there were 1,422 deaths. All of these people drink water.

My hypothesis was: Cholera is spread through the presence of human waste in water. After lots of research, I realized that there was a sewage leak in the river where London gets its water from. I mapped out a diagram of all the deaths in London. Most of them are near the Broad Street water pump, but there are some deaths out of the city. I went to one of the houses far away and there were two deceased people who lived there, a widow and her niece. I also found out that their servant would get water from the Broad Street pump! They are dead now!

After preforming many tests and experiments, I have come to a conclusion that, yes, Cholera is indeed spread through the presence of human waste in water. Most of the deaths are from water that is from the S & V Water Company.

I hope this helps.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Snow