

Lesson Plan on Victims of the Holocaust

Introduction: Everyone seems to know that the Jews were a main target of the Nazis, but many other groups were singled out by the Nazis as well. In this activity, students will learn more about the victims of the Holocaust.

Illinois Educational Standards Addressed:

16.A.3a Describe how historians use models for organizing historical interpretation (e.g., biographies, political events, issues and conflicts).

16.A.3b Make inferences about historical events and eras using historical maps and other historical sources.

16.A.3c Identify the differences between historical fact and interpretation.

16.C.3c (W) Describe the impact of technology (e.g., weaponry, transportation, printing press, microchips) in different parts of the world, 1500 – present.

16.A.4a Analyze and report historical events to determine cause-and-effect relationships.

16.A.4b Compare competing historical interpretations of an event.

16.A.5a Analyze historical and contemporary developments using methods of historical inquiry (pose questions, collect and analyze data, make and support inferences with evidence, report findings).

16.B.5a (W) Analyze worldwide consequences of isolated political events, including the events triggering the Napoleonic Wars and World Wars I and II.

Objectives:

Know what people were targets of the Nazi's Holocaust

Know why these groups of people were targets.

Know in what amount these people were killed.

Know how and where these people were killed.

Know why the Nazis killed these people.

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In the classroom:

Have students separately or in small groups each choose or be assigned a different group of victims from the table below:

Communists	Jehovah's Witnesses
Freemasons	Poles
Homosexuals	Russians
Disabled people	Roma, Sinti, and Manush ('Gypsies')
Jews	Ukrainians, and Belarussians

At the library:

Have the students research to answer these questions regarding their group:

- What was the world population of their group before World War II began?
- What was the world population of their group when the war was over?
- How many members of their group were killed during the war?
- Why were these people targets of the Nazis?
- Where in the world were these groups targeted by the Nazis?
- How were they treated by the Nazis? Did the Nazis attack them where they were found or were they sent elsewhere? If so, where?
- Did anyone help these groups? Who, and how?

Resources at the Pritzker Military Library, also available through interlibrary loan:*Books:*

Abzug, Robert H. *GIs remember: liberating the concentration camps*. Washington, DC: Museum of American Jewish Military History, 1985.

Call Number: D805.G3 A29 1993.

Dwork, Deborah. *Holocaust: a history*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2002.

Call Number: D804.3.D87 2002.

Goldhagen, Daniel Jonah. *Hitler's willing executioners: ordinary Germans and the Holocaust*. New York :Vintage Books, 1997. Call Number: D804.3 .G648 1997.

Glowinski, Michal. *The Black seasons*. Evanston, Illinois: Northwestern University Press, 2005. Call Number: PG7011.G58 A3 2005.

Jagendorf, Siegfried. *Jagendorf's foundry: memoir of the Romanian Holocaust, 1941-1944*. New York: HarperCollins, 1991. Call Number: DS135.R7 J3 1991.

Wyman, David S. *The abandonment of the Jews: America and the Holocaust, 1941-1945*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1984. Call Number: D810.J4 W95 1984.

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Videos:

Dane Hansen Productions. *We were there: Jewish liberators of the Nazi concentration camps*. Boulder: Dane Hanser Productions, 1994.
Call Number: D804.35 .W659 1994.

Kirk, Robert. *Sugihara: conspiracy of kindness*. [Boston]: WGBH Boston Video, 2005.
Call Number: D804.66.S84 S85 2005.

Olivier, Laurence, 1907-. *Genocide*. New York :Thorn EMI Video.
Call Number: D793. W6 VOL. 20.

Spielberg, Steven. *Survivors of the Holocaust*. Atlanta, GA: Turner Home Entertainment, 1996. Call Number: D810.J4 1995.

Welles, Orson, 1915-. *Genocide: the story of man's inhumanity to man*. Los Angeles: The Center, 1983. Call Number: D810.J4 1983.

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