Understanding the Holocaust

Why Study It? Why should we care?

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What was the Holocaust?

Between 1933 and 1945, the German government led by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party carried out the systematic persecution and murder of Europe's Jews.

This genocide is now known as the Holocaust.

The Nazi regime also persecuted and killed millions of other people it considered politically, racially, or socially unfit.

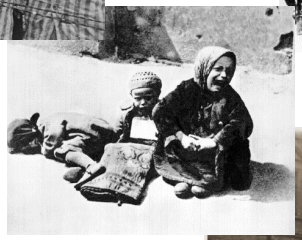
The Allies' victory ended World War II, but Nazi Germany and its collaborators had left millions dead and countless lives shattered.

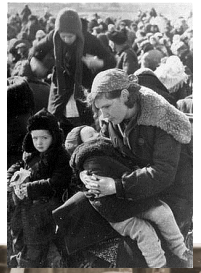
Not about Hitler…

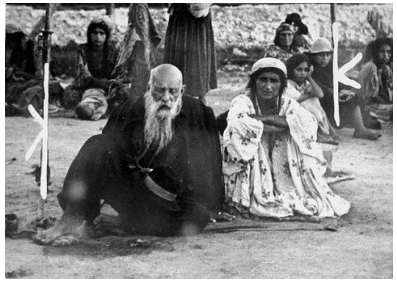
Holocaust Groups:

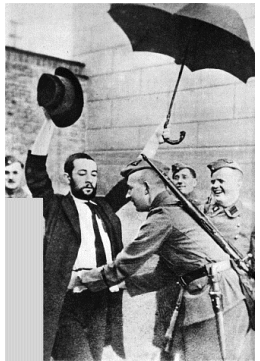
Victims – 6 Mil. Jews, millions of others
Perpetrators – hundreds of thousands
Rescuers – thousands
Bystanders - ???????

Who were the victims of the Holocaust?









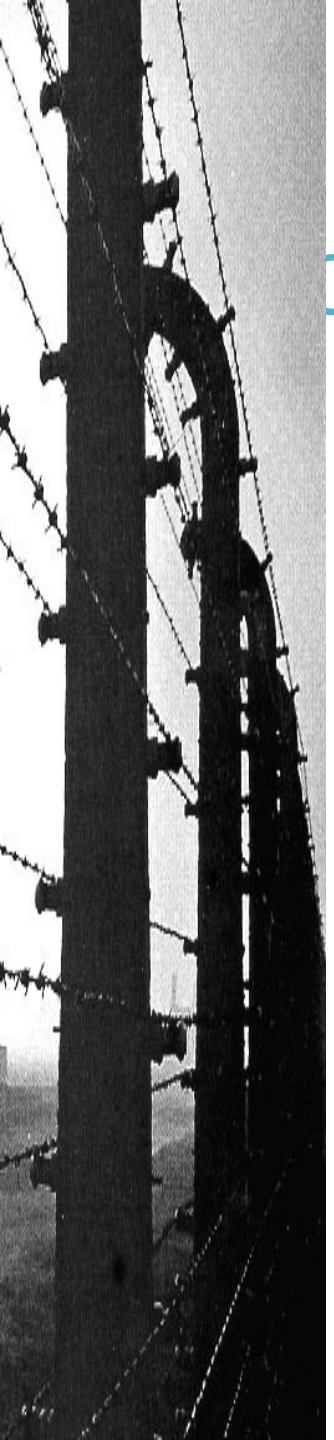
What is Anti-Semitism?

Anti-Semitism refers to prejudice and/or discrimination against Jews as individuals and as a group. Anti-Semitism is based on stereotypes and myths that target Jews as a people, their religious practices and beliefs.

This word was coined in 1879 in Germany in an attempt to define anti-Jewish sentiment on a scientific basis.

Antisemitism did not begin with Adolf Hitler.

1939 – War in Europe is Declared



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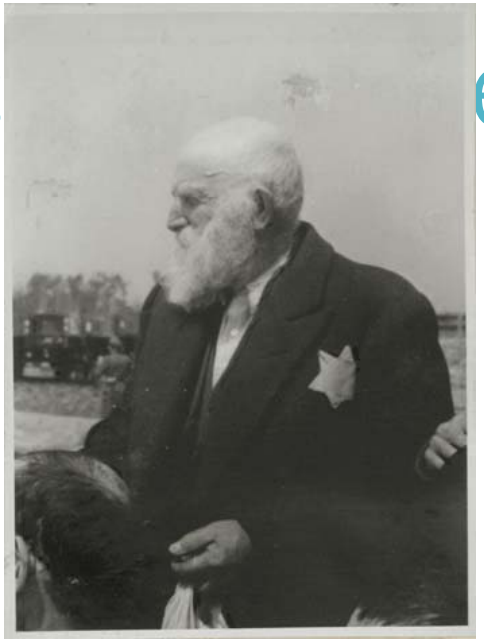

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Antisemitism: Then and Now

Charlottesville Unite the Right Rally

"Jews will not replace us“

"Blood and soil"

"Whose Streets? Our Streets"

Jewish Population today:
Global - .2 % of population
America – 1.8% of population

There are over 1600 hate groups active in the US today

ANTI-IMMIGRANT * ANTI-LGBT *

ANTI-MUSLIM *

BLACK NATIONALIST *

CHRISTIAN IDENTITY *

GENERAL HATE * HATE MUSIC *

HOLOCAUST DENIAL *

KU KLUX KLAN

MALE SUPREMACY *

NEO-CONFEDERATE

NEO-NAZI * RACIST SKINHEAD *

RADICAL TRADITIONAL CATHOLICISM

WHITE NATIONALISM

GROUPS IN NORTH CAROLINA

ACTBAC NC

AMERICANS FOR LEGAL IMMIGRATION

GREAT MILLSTONE

IDENTITY DIXIE

ISRAEL UNITED IN CHRIST

ISRAELITE SCHOOL OF UNIVERSAL PRACTICAL

ISRAELITES SAINTS OF CHRIST

LEAGUE OF THE SOUTH

LOYAL WHITE KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN

MASHARAH YASHARAHLA

NATION OF ISLAM

NEW BLACK PANTHER PARTY

OLD GLORY SKINHEADS

PROUD BOYS

VINLANDERS SOCIAL CLUB

Responses to Hate

- H.R.943 - Never Again Education Act 116th Congress (2019-2020)
- NC Gizella Abramson Holocaust Education Act (11/2021)
- Greenspon Center

QUEENS
UNIVERSITY of CHARLOTTE

Stan Greenspon
Holocaust and Social Justice
Education Center

At the Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center at Queens University of Charlotte, our educational offerings are transformative.

Rooted in our common humanity, drawing on lessons of the past, and reaching upward through education and advocacy are at the heart of the mission of the Greenspon Center.

Our Branches

Social Justice & Community Organizing

Education & research for transformational & community-based social justice and community organizing.

Holocaust & Human Rights Education

Exemplary Holocaust education advances human rights and democracy in an increasingly diverse America.

Jewish Life & Multi-cultural Connections

Working together to build transformative relationships across lines of difference.

Jewish Studies

Enabling thousands of years of Jewish texts, history and wisdom to speak to us and guide us today.

Thank You

I welcome your questions, thoughts, comments