



**State of New Jersey  
Commission on Holocaust Education**

P.O. Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
(609) 376-3968

[holocaust@doe.nj.gov](mailto:holocaust@doe.nj.gov)  
<http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>



September 2021

**TO:** Principal

**FROM:** Doug Cervi, Executive Director   
New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education

**RE:** Summer Mailing to Schools

It would be appreciated if the enclosures to this letter could be sent to your teachers.

Thank you for your continuous support in the fight against bias, bigotry and intolerance wherever and whenever they exist.

Enclosures



## ENCLOSURES

- Update
- N.J.S.A. 18A:35-28, Holocaust/Genocide Education
- The Law
- Curriculum Guide Covers
- Publications Order Form
- Holocaust Resource Center Contact Sheet
- Important Dates to Remember
- What is Genocide
- List of Recommended New Resources
- Know the ABC's of Reporting Bias Incidents/Hate Crimes
- Teaching Strategies – Holocaust/Genocide Education
- Promoting Diversity in New Jersey's Schools
- How to Subscribe to Our Listserv
- Professional Development Request Form

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law Mandating Holocaust/Genocide Education <a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/about/">https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/about/</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Guides Available <a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/curriculumn/materials/">https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/curriculumn/materials/</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of Holocaust/Genocide Resource Centers <a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/centers/">https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/centers/</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended Books and Materials for School Libraries <a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/curriculumn/addresources/">https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/curriculumn/addresources/</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awards sponsored by the Commission <a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/awards/cosponsored/">https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/awards/cosponsored/</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sikh Genocide: <a href="https://thirdsikhgenocide.wordpress.com/">https://thirdsikhgenocide.wordpress.com/</a></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programs and workshops (on calendar at bottom of the page) <a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/index.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/index.shtml</a></li> </ul>





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September 2021

**TO:** Chief School Administrators  
Charter and Renaissance School Lead Persons  
Principals  
District Curriculum Coordinators

**FROM:** Doug Cervi, Executive Director   
New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education

**RE:** Update

I hope the summer was a pleasant transition both professionally and personally and that the new school year begins well and is successful educationally. We know that this last year was difficult due to COVID-19 and we applauded you and your educators for the work that has been done. Please review and forward this letter and the enclosed information to your school leaders.

I have included a number of items with this letter (enclosed and available on the web) that should be forwarded to appropriate personnel in your school in relation to the Holocaust/genocide mandate and the entire issue of teaching about character education, anti-bullying and bias/prejudice reduction.

Before the issues fade from the memory, please review material on 9/11 for instruction in the classroom - <https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/curriculum/septelevn/>

The Holocaust/Genocide Resource Centers reported their programs for students, educators, survivors and the community and the information was sent to the Governor as part of the Commission's "End of Year – 2019/20 Report." The following are the totals for all Centers: 412 Programs servicing 35,274 students, 8,512 educators, 1,470 survivors and 59,250 community members.

During the 2019/20 school year, the Commission continued to coordinate virtual programs bringing together students and survivors. Thousands of students have been involved in the process over the past year. It is recommended that programs (virtual or in person) be implemented in the schools bringing together students and survivors.

Thank you for your continued support in the battle against bias, prejudice and intolerance wherever and whenever they exist and if the materials are not age appropriate for students in your school, please pass on to other interested persons.

Enclosures



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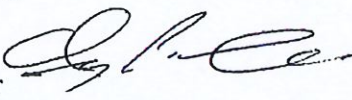


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<http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>

September 2021

**TO:** Chief School Administrators  
Charter and Renaissance School Lead Persons  
Principals  
District Curriculum Coordinators

**FROM:** Doug Cervi, Executive Director   
New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education

**RE:** N.J.S.A. 18A:35-28, Holocaust/Genocide Education

The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education has received a number of inquiries from educators on whether or not school districts and charter schools must include instruction on the Holocaust and genocides in elementary and secondary education.

**As a reminder, in 1994 the legislature voted unanimously in favor of an act requiring education on the Holocaust and genocide in elementary and secondary education and it subsequently signed into law by Governor Whitman. The law indicates that issues of bias, prejudice and bigotry, including bullying through the teaching of the Holocaust and genocide, shall be included for all children from K-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Because this is a law and in Statute any changes in standards would not impact the requirement of education on this topic in all New Jersey public schools.**

This Statute remains current and must be incorporated when developing new or revised curriculum. A review of the English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical subjects suggests that it can be used as a framework in developing a well-articulated multi-disciplinary K-12 Holocaust/genocide program of study.

For recommendations of incorporating Holocaust and genocide education into grades K – 12 curriculum, the Commission encourages educators to use the study guides available on the Commission website at, <https://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/curriculum/materials/>. Please do not hesitate to contact the Commission at [holocaust@doe.nj.gov](mailto:holocaust@doe.nj.gov) if you need more information on the law or additional resources. Please note that we are currently in the process of updating our curriculum guides and website. The current guide will remain on the website permanently and the updated guides will be added once they are completed.



SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE, Nos. 760, 621, and 563

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED MARCH 10, 1994

Sponsored by Senators EWING, McGREEVEY and SINAGRA

1 AN ACT regarding genocide education in the public schools and  
2 supplementing chapter 35 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes.

4  
5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the  
6 State of New Jersey:

7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:  
8 a. New Jersey has recently become the focal point of national  
9 attention for the most venomous and vile of ethnic hate speeches.  
10 b. There is an inescapable link between violence and vandalism  
11 and ethnic and racial intolerance. The New Jersey Department  
12 of Education itself has formally recognized the existence of the  
13 magnitude of this problem in New Jersey schools by the  
14 formation of a Commissioner's Task Force on Violence and  
15 Vandalism.

16 c. New Jersey is proud of its enormous cultural diversity. The  
17 teaching of tolerance must be made a priority if that cultural  
18 diversity is to remain one of the State's strengths.

19 d. National studies indicate that fewer than 25% of students  
20 have an understanding of organized attempts throughout history  
21 to eliminate various ethnic groups through a systematic program  
22 of mass killing or genocide.

23 e. The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education,  
24 created pursuant to P.L.1991, c.193 (C.18A:4A-1 et seq.), several  
25 years ago expanded its mission to study and recommend  
26 curricular material on a wide range of genocides. The Holocaust  
27 Commission is an ideal agency to recommend curricular materials  
28 to local districts.

29 2. a. Every board of education shall include instruction on the  
30 Holocaust and genocides in an appropriate place in the curriculum  
31 of all elementary and secondary school pupils.

32 b. The instruction shall enable pupils to identify and analyze  
33 applicable theories concerning human nature and behavior; to  
34 understand that genocide is a consequence of prejudice and  
35 discrimination; and to understand that issues of moral dilemma  
36 and conscience have a profound impact on life. The instruction  
37 shall further emphasize the personal responsibility that each  
38 citizen bears to fight racism and hatred whenever and wherever  
39 it happens.

40 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply  
41 to curriculum offerings in the 1994-95 school year.

Attest

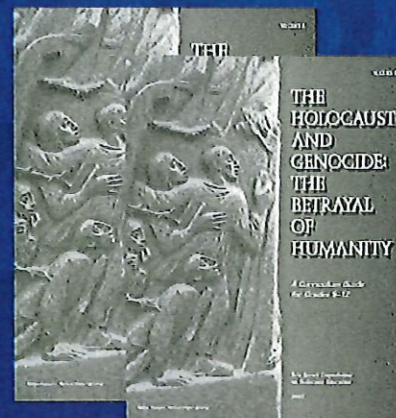
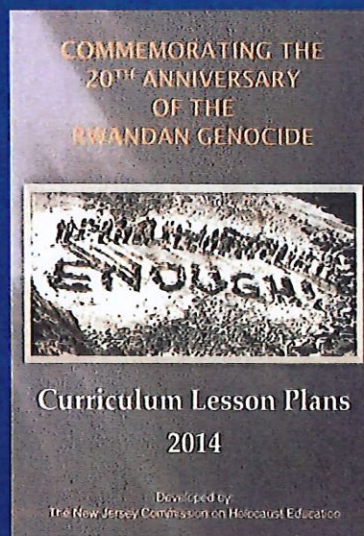
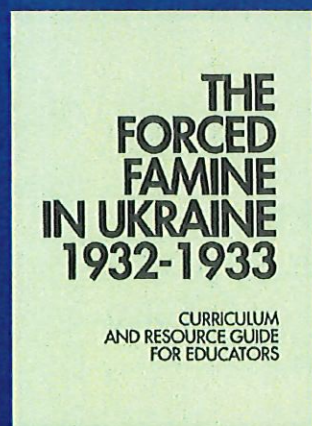
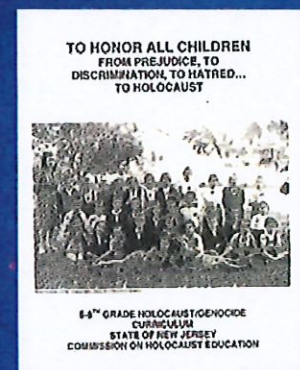
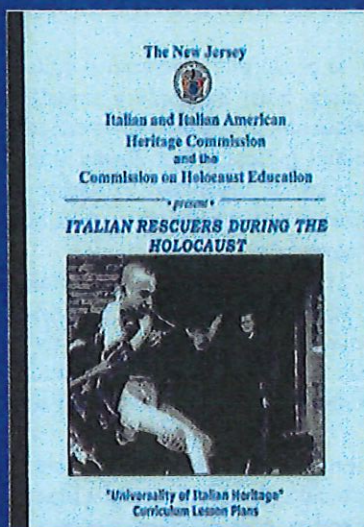
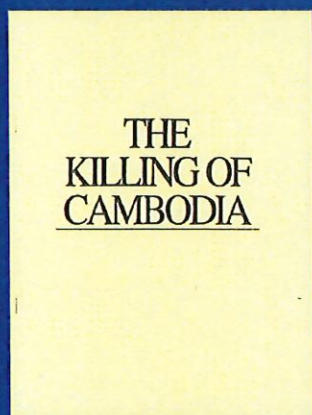
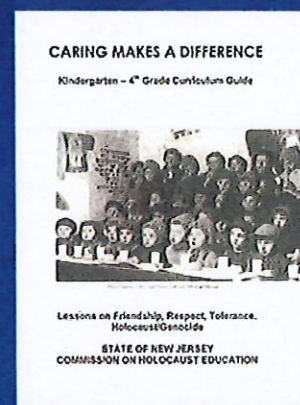
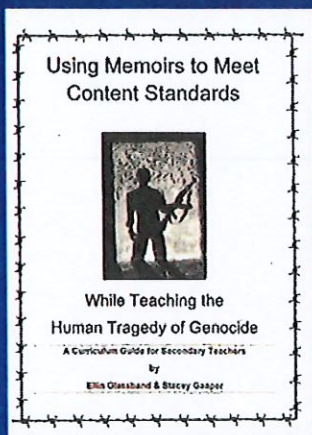
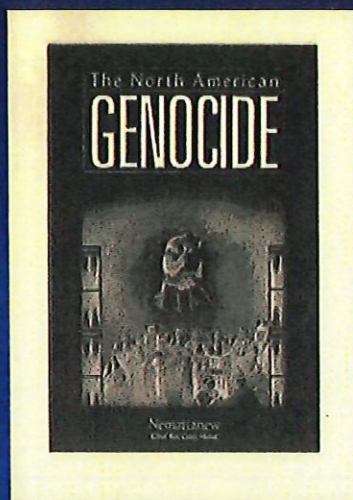
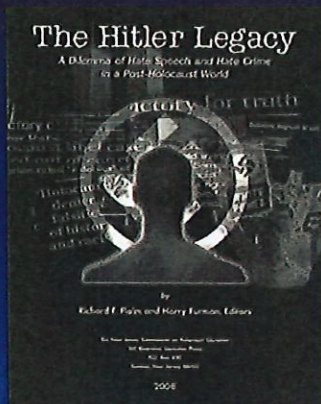
*Peter Verniero*  
PETER VERNIERO  
CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE GOVERNOR

APPROVED

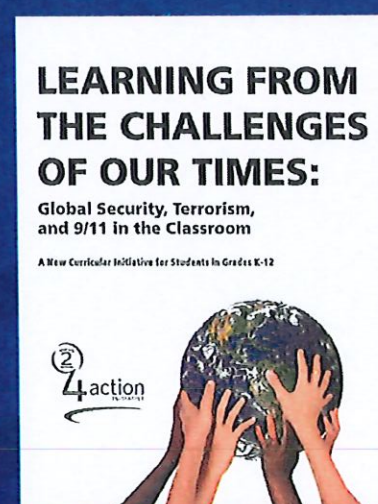
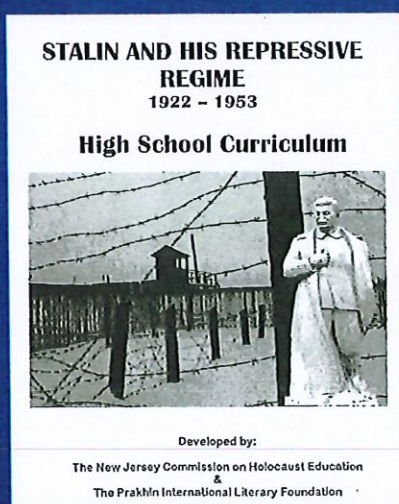
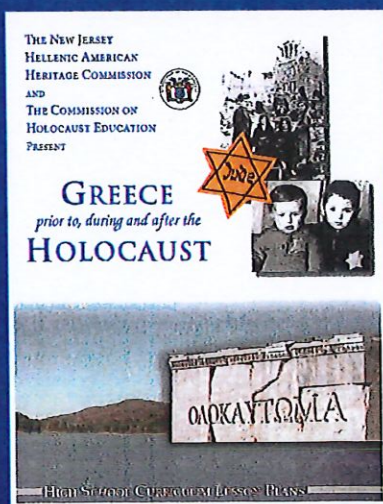
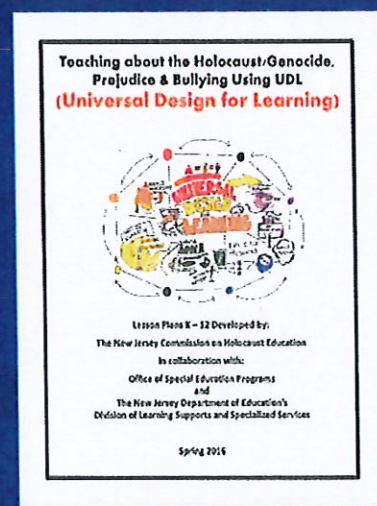
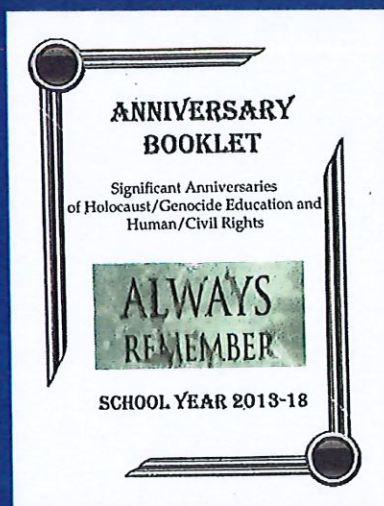
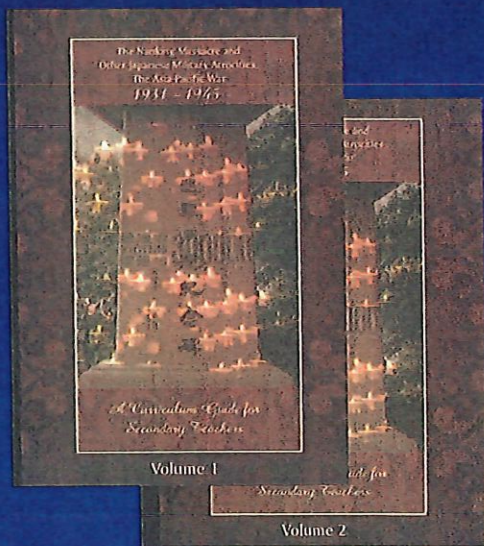
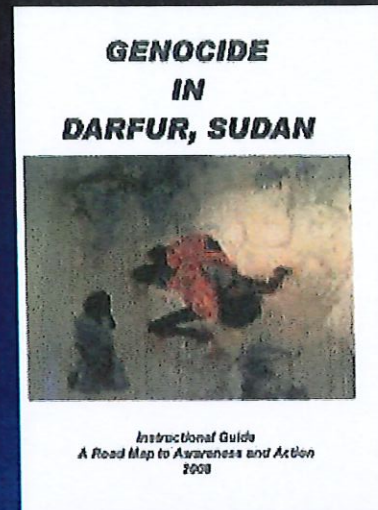
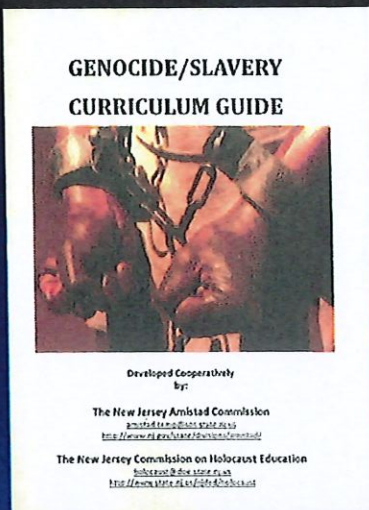
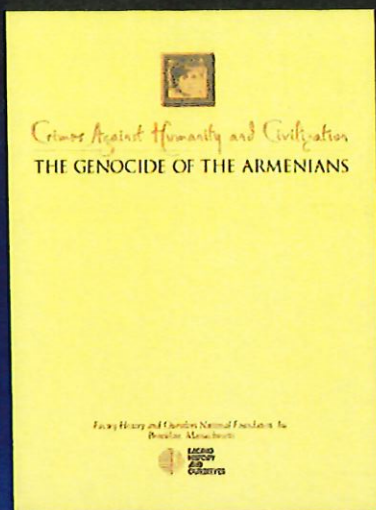
27th DAY OF APRIL 1994  
*Christine Todd Whitman*  
CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN  
GOVERNOR



# New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education Curriculum Guides







## PUBLICATION ORDER FORM

Please indicate (print or type) below name and address where order is to be forwarded:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF PUBLICATION(S)

**Return to:**

*New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education  
P.O. Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625*



UPDATED: August 24, 2021

## LOCATION OF HOLOCAUST/GENOCIDE RESOURCE CENTERS IN NEW JERSEY

\*Individuals and groups are encouraged to attend activities at any Center.



CENTER NAME	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
<b>ATLANTIC COUNTY</b> Stockton University Sara and Sam Schaffer Holocaust Resource Center 101 Vera King Farris Drive Galloway, New Jersey 08205-9441 <a href="http://www.stockton.edu/holocaust-resource/">www.stockton.edu/holocaust-resource/</a>	Gail Rosenthal Morgan Everman Irvin Moreno-Rodriguez	(609) 652-4699 FAX (609) 626-3649	<a href="mailto:gail.rosenthal@stockton.edu">gail.rosenthal@stockton.edu</a> <a href="mailto:morgan.everman@stockton.edu">morgan.everman@stockton.edu</a> <a href="mailto:Irvin.moreno-Rodriguez@stockton.edu">Irvin.moreno-Rodriguez@stockton.edu</a>
<b>BERGEN COUNTY</b> Bergen Community College The Center for Peace, Justice & Reconciliation Room S 152 400 Paramus Road Paramus, NJ 07652	Professor Sarah Shurts Professor Ellen Feig		<a href="mailto:sshurts@bergen.edu">sshurts@bergen.edu</a> <a href="mailto:cpjr@bergen.edu">cpjr@bergen.edu</a>
<b>Ramapo College</b> The Gross Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies 505 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ 07430-1680 <a href="http://www.ramapo.edu/academics/holocaust/">http://www.ramapo.edu/academics/holocaust/</a>	Dr. Michael A. Riff	(201) 684-7409 FAX (201) 684-7953	<a href="mailto:mriff@ramapo.edu">mriff@ramapo.edu</a> <a href="mailto:holgen@ramapo.edu">holgen@ramapo.edu</a>
<b>BURLINGTON COUNTY</b> Rowan College at Burlington County Center for Social Justice and Holocaust Studies County Route 530 Pemberton-Browns Mills Road Pemberton, New Jersey 08068	Dr. Jonathan Alexander	(609) 894-9311, Ext. 1123 FAX (609) 726-0442	<a href="mailto:jalexander@rcbc.edu">jalexander@rcbc.edu</a>
<b>CAMDEN COUNTY</b> Camden County College Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility P.O. Box 200 Blackwood, NJ 08012 <a href="http://www.camdencc.edu/civiccenter/index.cfm">http://www.camdencc.edu/civiccenter/index.cfm</a>	Dr. John Pesda	(856) 227-7200, Ext. 4432 FAX (856) 374-5054	<a href="mailto:jpesda@camdencc.edu">jpesda@camdencc.edu</a>
<b>Esther Raab Holocaust Museum and Goodwin Education Center</b> 1301 Springdale Road, Suite 200 Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 <a href="http://www.jewishsouthjersey.org/page.aspx?id=245456">http://www.jewishsouthjersey.org/page.aspx?id=245456</a>	Helen Kirschbaum	(856) 751-9500, Ext. 1249 FAX (856) 751-1697	<a href="mailto:hkirschbaum@ifedsnj.org">hkirschbaum@ifedsnj.org</a>
<b>CAPE MAY COUNTY</b> The Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage 610 Washington Avenue Woodbine, NJ 08270 Mailing Address: PO Box 517 Woodbine, NJ 08270 <a href="http://www.thesam.org/">http://www.thesam.org/</a>	Jane B. Stark	(609) 626-3831	<a href="mailto:jane.stark@stockton.edu">jane.stark@stockton.edu</a>



<b>CUMBERLAND COUNTY</b> South Jersey Holocaust Coalition Cumberland County College 1015 East Park Avenue Vineland, NJ 08360  Lois Genovese 434 Mount Laurel Road Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 <a href="http://www.holocaustcoalition.com/421706381">http://www.holocaustcoalition.com/421706381</a>	Harry Furman, Esq. Lois Genovese, Secretary	(856) 692-1069 (609) 634-2504	<a href="mailto:hfruv@aol.com">hfruv@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:lois.genovese@gmail.com">lois.genovese@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:holocaustcoalition@gmail.com">holocaustcoalition@gmail.com</a>
<b>ESSEX COUNTY</b> Center for the Study of Genocide & Human Rights (CGHR) UNESCO Chair for Genocide Prevention Newark Office: Rutgers University 360 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Hill Hall 703 Newark, NJ 07102 <b>New Brunswick Office:</b> Rutgers University 64 College Avenue New Brunswick, NJ 08901	Professor Alex Hinton Professor Nela Navarro	(973) 353-1260	<a href="mailto:ahinton@rutgers.edu">ahinton@rutgers.edu</a> <a href="mailto:nnavarro@rutgers.edu">nnavarro@rutgers.edu</a> <a href="mailto:navarro.nela@gmail.com">navarro.nela@gmail.com</a>
MSU Center for Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Education 1 Normal Avenue Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 <a href="http://adpcenter.njng.com/">http://adpcenter.njng.com/</a>	Zoe Burkholder Concetta E. Donvito	(973) 655-3481 (973) 655-7641	<a href="mailto:burkholderz@mail.montclair.edu">burkholderz@mail.montclair.edu</a> <a href="mailto:donvito@mail.montclair.edu">donvito@mail.montclair.edu</a>
<b>Museum of Human Rights, Freedom and Tolerance</b> 425 Essex Street Millburn, NJ 07041 <a href="http://www.museumhrft.org">www.museumhrft.org</a>	Igor A. Kotler	(862) 438-5848	<a href="mailto:ikotler@museumhrft.org">ikotler@museumhrft.org</a> <a href="mailto:info@museumhrft.org">info@museumhrft.org</a>
<b>Seton Hall University</b> • Ctr. for Jewish Christian Studies & Holocaust Ed. • Sister Rose Thering Education Fund 400 South Orange Avenue South Orange, NJ 07079 <a href="http://www.shu.edu/academics/artsci/sister-rose-thering/">http://www.shu.edu/academics/artsci/sister-rose-thering/</a> <a href="http://www.shu.edu/go/judaeo-christian">www.shu.edu/go/judaeo-christian</a>	Fr. Lawrence Frizzell Yolanda Sheffield Williams	(973) 761-9751 (973) 761-9006	<a href="mailto:lawrence.frizzell@shu.edu">lawrence.frizzell@shu.edu</a> <a href="mailto:Yolanda.sheffieldwilliams@shu.edu">Yolanda.sheffieldwilliams@shu.edu</a> <a href="mailto:srtf@shu.edu">srtf@shu.edu</a>
<b>GLOUCESTER COUNTY</b> Rowan University Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies 201 Mullica Hill Road - Robinson 215F Glassboro, NJ 08028	Jennifer Eve Rich	(856) 256-4500, Ext. 53810	<a href="mailto:richi@rowan.edu">richi@rowan.edu</a>
<b>HUDSON COUNTY</b> Saint Peters University 2641 Kennedy Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07306	Dr. David Gerlach Dr. Eileen L. Poiani	201-761-6175 201-761-6022	<a href="mailto:dgerlach@saintpeters.edu">dgerlach@saintpeters.edu</a> <a href="mailto:epoiani@saintpeters.edu">epoiani@saintpeters.edu</a>



<b>MERCER COUNTY</b> Historical Society of Princeton Updike Farmstead 354 Quaker Road Princeton, NJ 08540 <a href="http://www.princetonhistory.org/">http://www.princetonhistory.org/</a>	Eve Mandel	(609) 921-6748, Ext. 102 FAX (609) 921-6939	<a href="mailto:eve@princetonhistory.org">eve@princetonhistory.org</a>
<b>Kidsbridge Tolerance Museum</b> 999 Lower Ferry Rd Ewing, NJ 08628 <a href="http://www.kidsbridgemuseum.org">www.kidsbridgemuseum.org</a>	Lynne Azarchi	(609) 771-0377 (609) 771-0300	<a href="mailto:lynne@kidsbridgecenter.org">lynne@kidsbridgecenter.org</a>
<b>Mercer County Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center</b> 1200 Old Trenton Road West Windsor, NJ 08550-3407 <a href="http://www.mccc.edu/holocaust/">http://www.mccc.edu/holocaust/</a>	Barbara Krasner		<a href="mailto:krasnerb@mccc.edu">krasnerb@mccc.edu</a>
<b>Rider University</b> The Julius and Dorothy Koppelman Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center 2083 Lawrenceville Road Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-3099 <a href="http://www.rider.edu/offices/more-services/julius-and-dorothy-koppelman-holocaust-genocide-resource-center">http://www.rider.edu/offices/more-services/julius-and-dorothy-koppelman-holocaust-genocide-resource-center</a>	Professor Howard Joffe		<a href="mailto:hjoffe@rider.edu">hjoffe@rider.edu</a>
<b>MIDDLESEX COUNTY</b> <b>Rutgers, The State University of NJ</b> The Herbert and Leonard Littman Families Holocaust Resource Center 12 College Avenue New Brunswick, NJ 08901 <a href="http://buildnercenter.rutgers.edu/">http://buildnercenter.rutgers.edu/</a>	Karen Small Nancy Sinkoff	(848) 932-3345	<a href="mailto:ksmall@rutgers.edu">ksmall@rutgers.edu</a> <a href="mailto:nsinkoff@rutgers.edu">nsinkoff@rutgers.edu</a> <a href="mailto:sarah.portilla@rutgers.edu">sarah.portilla@rutgers.edu</a>
<b>Jewish Federation in the Heart of NJ</b> 230 Old Bridge Turnpike South River, NJ 08882 <a href="https://jewishheartnj.org/">https://jewishheartnj.org/</a> 732-588-1800	Dan Rozett	732-588-1836	<a href="mailto:danr@jewishheartnj.org">danr@jewishheartnj.org</a> cc: <a href="mailto:stacyf@jewishheartnj.org">stacyf@jewishheartnj.org</a> <a href="mailto:susana@jewishheartnj.org">susana@jewishheartnj.org</a>
<b>MONMOUTH COUNTY</b> <b>Center for Holocaust, Human Rights &amp; Genocide</b> Education at Brookdale Community College (Chhange) 765 Newman Springs Road Lincroft, NJ 07738 <a href="http://www.chhange.org/">http://www.chhange.org/</a>	Sara Brown	(732) 224-2074 FAX (732) 224-2045	<a href="mailto:sara.brown@chhange.org">sara.brown@chhange.org</a>
<b>MORRIS COUNTY</b> <b>Saint Elizabeth University</b> <b>Center for Holocaust &amp; Genocide Education</b> Annunciation Center 219A 2 Convent Road Morristown, NJ 07960 <a href="http://www.cse.edu/holocaustcenter/">http://www.cse.edu/holocaustcenter/</a>	Dr. Amy Weiss	(973) 290-4387 FAX (973) 290-4312	<a href="mailto:aweiss01@cse.edu">aweiss01@cse.edu</a> <a href="mailto:holocaustcenter@cse.edu">holocaustcenter@cse.edu</a>
<b>Drew University</b> Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study Embury Hall Madison, NJ 07940 <a href="http://www.drew.edu/chs/">http://www.drew.edu/chs/</a>	Dr. Joshua Kavaloski	(973) 408-3600 FAX (973) 408-3914	<a href="mailto:jkavalos@drew.edu">jkavalos@drew.edu</a> <a href="mailto:ctrholst@drew.edu">ctrholst@drew.edu</a>



Holocaust Council of Greater Metro West 901 Route 10 Whippany, NJ 07981 <a href="http://ifedgmw.org">http://ifedgmw.org</a>	Ilyse Shainbrown Jamie Carus	(973) 929-3080 (973) 929-3067	<a href="mailto:ishainbrown@ifedgmw.org">ishainbrown@ifedgmw.org</a> <a href="mailto:JCarus@ifedgmw.org">JCarus@ifedgmw.org</a>
<b>OCEAN COUNTY</b> The Ocean County College Center for Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Education Russell Building 227 College Drive Toms River, NJ 08754 <a href="http://www.ocean.edu/">www.ocean.edu/</a>	Dr. Ali Botein-Furrevig	(732) 255-0400, Ext. 2368 FAX (732) 255-0444	<a href="mailto:abotein-furrevig@ocean.edu">abotein-furrevig@ocean.edu</a> <a href="mailto:dralibf@comcast.net">dralibf@comcast.net</a>
<b>PASSAIC COUNTY</b> William Paterson University Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies 300 Pompton Road Wayne, NJ 07470-2103 <a href="http://www.wpunj.edu/library/holocaust-resources.html">http://www.wpunj.edu/library/holocaust-resources.html</a>	Dr. Alison Dobrick	(973) 720-3674 FAX (973) 720-2338 (973) 720-3456	<a href="mailto:dobricka@wpunj.edu">dobricka@wpunj.edu</a>
<b>SALEM COUNTY</b> Salem Peace Center Salem County Community College 460 Hollywood Avenue Carneys Point, NJ 08069 <a href="http://www.salemmc.edu/library/salem-county-peace-center">http://www.salemmc.edu/library/salem-county-peace-center</a>		(856) 351-2652 (856) 351-2646	
<b>SOMERSET COUNTY</b> Raritan Valley Community College The Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies 118 Lamington Road Branchburg, NJ 08876-1265 <a href="http://www.raritanval.edu/community/holocaust/index.html">http://www.raritanval.edu/community/holocaust/index.html</a>	Michelle Edgar	(908) 526-1200, Ext. 8735	<a href="mailto:michelle.edgar@raritanval.edu">michelle.edgar@raritanval.edu</a>
<b>UNION COUNTY</b> Kean University Holocaust Resource Center 1000 Morris Avenue Union, NJ 07083 <a href="http://www.kean.edu/~hrc/">http://www.kean.edu/~hrc/</a>	Dr. Adara Goldberg Sarah Coykendall	(908) 737-4633 FAX (908) 737-4664	<a href="mailto:agoldber@kean.edu">agoldber@kean.edu</a> <a href="mailto:coykends@kean.edu">coykends@kean.edu</a> <a href="mailto:hrc@kean.edu">hrc@kean.edu</a>
<b>WARREN COUNTY</b> Warren County Community College Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center 475 Route 57 West Washington, NJ 07882	William Lorenzo	(973) 670-0599	<a href="mailto:lorenzowj@gmail.com">lorenzowj@gmail.com</a>
<b>STATE WIDE</b> Council of Holocaust Educators c/o New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education P.O. Box 500 Trenton, NJ 08625	Colleen Tambuscio	Cell: 201-320-8974	<a href="mailto:ctambuscio@aol.com">ctambuscio@aol.com</a>



**State of New Jersey  
Commission on Holocaust Education**

P.O. Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
(609) 376-3968



[holocaust@doe.nj.gov](mailto:holocaust@doe.nj.gov)  
<http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**2021**

- September 1<sup>st</sup>: The Invasion of Poland
- September 15<sup>th</sup>: The Nuremberg Laws passed
- November 9 and 10: Kristallnacht, The Night of Broken Glass
- December 7<sup>th</sup>: The bombing of Pearl Harbor
- December 13<sup>th</sup>: Nanking Massacre
- December 16<sup>th</sup>: The Battle of the Bulge

**2022**

- January: Nama Herero Genocide
- January 27<sup>th</sup>: International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- April: Genocide Awareness Month
- April: Holodomor – Ukrainian Genocide
- April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Commemoration of Darfur Genocide
- April 5<sup>th</sup>: Commemoration of the Bosnian Genocide
- April 7<sup>th</sup>: Commemorates Genocide Memorial Day in Rwanda
- April 17<sup>th</sup>: Commemorates the Cambodian Genocide
- April 18<sup>th</sup>: Beginning of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising
- April 24<sup>th</sup>: Anniversary of the beginning of the Armenian Genocide
- April 28<sup>th</sup>: Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)
- May: The Voyage of the Saint Louis
- May 7<sup>th</sup>: Unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany
- June 6<sup>th</sup>: Operation Overlord - The D-Day Invasion

# WHAT IS GENOCIDE

Although the term genocide was coined in the twentieth century, it describes a phenomenon that is as old as recorded history. Baillet (1912, 151-152) tells us that genocides were common in predynastic Egypt; the Assyrians (Chalk and Jonassohn 1990, 58-61) claim to have practiced it, if we are to accept their own reports; and several cases are to be found in the Old Testament (Chalk and Jonassohn 1990, 61-63).

The Old Testament contains several quite specific descriptions that are of interest to us. The Amalekites are reported to have been annihilated several times, which might raise questions about the historical accuracy of the reports or about the completeness with which the annihilations were carried out. Our interest is not so much in these details as in the style in which they were reported. That style allows us to conclude that the physical destruction of the entire people of defeated opponents was not unusual at that time, nor that it evoked any humanitarian outrage. The victims seemed to have accepted their fate as the usual lot of the losers at the same time as they were lamenting their losses.

The origins of genocide are shrouded in the unrecorded past. In antiquity, because it is always reported in connection with wars, we can make an educated guess about its roots. City-states and empires were very small by modern standards; many of them were located in the so-called golden triangle, the modern Middle East. The geopolitical dimensions of this area seemed to have been designed to produce almost continuous warfare. The valleys of the Tigris and the Euphrates are very fertile with few natural boundaries. The region lies across the trade routes between Asia, Europe, and Africa. Similar criteria apply to the Nile Valley. Thus, opportunities for competition and conflicts leading to wars seemed to be ever present. However, these wars initially did not settle anything; the defeated party went home, recruited and trained another army, produced more and sometimes better weapons, and then returned to fight another war in order to recoup losses and wreak revenge. It did not take much imagination for someone to decide that the only way to preserve a victory was to annihilate the vanquished enemy entirely, not only the combat forces. Baillet (1912, 167-168) argues that this method of concluding a victorious campaign lasted for about 1,000 years in Egypt before it fell into disuse. This change is not the result of any rise in humanitarian concerns, but rather the realization that the victims would be much more valuable alive than dead.

The states in the fertile crescent were extraordinarily labor intensive because their fertile valleys required elaborate irrigation systems; because the large number of gods they worshipped all required temples; and because few rulers were content with the palaces of their predecessors and therefore spent huge resources on new palaces, or burial sites in Egypt, to glorify their reign.

Thus, the new realization that the captives of a conquered enemy were much more useful as slaves than as corpses became widespread in the area.

Genocides continued to be performed by states and empires in order to eliminate a real or perceived threat, in order to terrorize a real or imaginary enemy, or in order to acquire economic resources that others owned but which could not be carried off as loot or booty. These three motives were usually present at the same time, although one of them tended to predominate in any particular situation. Of course, the farther we go back into the past, the more difficult it becomes to obtain evidence of the motives of the perpetrators.

In antiquity it is particularly difficult to account for the fates of peoples. From inscriptions, clay tablets, and *parchments* we know a great many names of peoples about whom hardly anything else is known. Even when we know something of their history, some of them have disappeared without our knowing what happened to them. The classic illustration is the story of the Hittites who are well known to us from scripture and Egyptian records (Chalk and Jonassohn 1990, 6061). We know that they conquered their neighbors and built an empire that competed with Assyria and Egypt. Then they disappeared from history without a trace. In fact, it is only in modern times that the remains of their capital were



discovered; it had been burned to the ground and cursed to prevent it from being resettled. Their writing was deciphered, and the peace treaty that they negotiated with Ramses II was decoded. However, we still have no idea what happened to the Hittite people. Were they dispersed to other areas? Did they assimilate into the culture of their conquerors? Or were they slaughtered? Only the development of an archeology of genocide holds any promise of solving that riddle.

The history of empires, right into the modern period, is punctuated by periodic persecutions, sometimes escalating into genocides, which were performed either to build up an empire or to maintain it. One of the important characteristics of these types of genocides is that the victim groups were always located outside the perpetrator society, physically and socially. The campaigns of Athens against Melos, of Rome against Carthage, of Genghis Kahn against several peoples (Chalk and Jonassohn 1990), and of the Crusaders against populations of Antioch and Jerusalem (Runciman 1962), may serve as examples.

Some believe that genocide has become the ultimate human rights problem of the modern world. The term *genocide* was first used by Raphael Lemkin in 1944 during World War II, in which more civilians had died than soldiers. Lemkin, a professor of law in Poland who escaped the Nazis, used the term to describe a "...coordinated plan of different actions aiming at the destruction of essential foundations of the life of national groups with the aim of annihilating the groups themselves." Raphael Lemkin (1900-1959) devoted his life to a single goal: the outlawing of a crime so extraordinary that language had not yet recognized its existence. In 1944, Lemkin made one step towards his goal when he created the word "genocide" taking the word 'geno' from the Greek meaning "tribe" and 'cide' from the Latin meaning "death" which meant, in his words, "the destruction of a nation or an ethnic group." While he had lived long enough to see his word popularized and the Genocide Conventions adopted by most of the world, recent history serves as a reminder that laws and treaties are not enough to prevent genocide. On December 9, 1948, the United Nations adopted the Genocide Convention, which defined genocide as follows:

...genocide means any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group as such: (a) killing members of the group; (b) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; and (e) forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

While the limitation of Lemkin's definition is its broad nature, that of the United Nations has been criticized as being both broad and narrow (Totten, Parsons, Charny, 1997, p. xxiv). Because neither of these definitions has satisfied many who have sought to apply them to very serious acts against groups of people, we are now confronted with many definitions of genocide, a phenomenon that can be puzzling to young people who are seeking their own set of criteria to help them evaluate the numerous violations of human rights around the world today.

In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

1. Killing members of the group;
2. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
3. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
4. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
5. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.



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<http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>

**Recommended Resources**

- Yad Vashem: <https://www.yadvashem.org/>
- Echoes and Reflections: <https://echoesandreflections.org/>
- Facing History and Ourselves: <https://www.facinghistory.org/>
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: <https://www.ushmm.org/>
- Museum of Jewish Heritage: <https://mjhny.org/>
- Zachor Foundation: <https://zachorlearn.org/>
- Jewish Foundation for the Righteous: <https://jfr.org/>
- Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre: <https://www.jhbholocaust.co.za/>
- Father Patrick Desbois Organization: <https://www.yahadinunum.org/en>
- Anti-Defamation League: <https://www.adl.org/>
- Southern Poverty Law Center: <https://www.splcenter.org/>
- USC Shoah Foundation: <https://sfi.usc.edu/>
- Jewish Partisan Education Foundation: <https://www.jewishpartisans.org/>
- National World War 2 Museum: <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/holocaust-education-resources>
- Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum: <http://auschwitz.org/en/>
- Memoirs of WW2: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvIC\\_WJkNQCOqB\\_f9\\_6siPQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvIC_WJkNQCOqB_f9_6siPQ)
- Genocide Watch: <https://www.genocidewatch.com/>
- Book Recommendations (Holocaust Memoirs)
  - *796 Days* by Leo Ullman
  - *A Partisan's Revenge* by Sidney Simon
  - *Billy the Baaadly Behaving Bully Goat* by Staci Schwartz
  - *Chocolate, The Taste of Freedom* by Maud Dahme
  - *Girl in a Striped Dress* by Rosalie Lebovich Simon
  - *In Sunshine and In Shadow: We Remember Them* by Dr. Vera Goodkin
  - *Lives Entwined* by Fanny Lesser
  - *Luna's Life* by Luna Kaufman
  - *Once by Name was Sara* by Betty Grebenchikoff
  - *One the Acacias Bloomed* by Fred Spiegel
  - *One Voice, Two Lives* by Cantor David Wisnia
  - *Teaching the Unspeakable* by Dr. Paul Winkler
  - *The New Bear on the Block* by Staci Schwartz
  - *Two Voices: A Mother and Son* by Don Berkman
  - *Words for all Time Edited* by Rob Huberman

\*If interested in using any of the above mentioned books, please contact the New Jersey Commission on Education and we can assist with funding.



# Post

## KNOW THE A B C's OF REPORTING BIAS INCIDENTS/HATE CRIMES

*Don't be a bystander...*



*Be an upstander!*

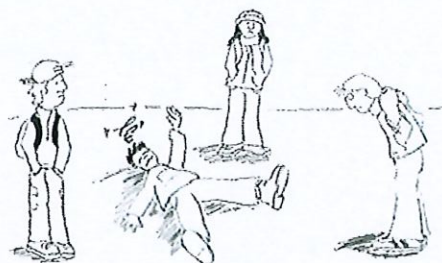
Take action, document and report the following:

**A) WRITTEN OR VERBAL WORDS that target...**

Religion	Physical Characteristics
Race	Disabilities/Challenges
Gender	National Origin
Sexual Orientation	Culture

**B) AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR (Based on A)**

Fights  
Sexual Harassment  
Gang Activity



**C) VANDALISM/GRAFFITI (Based on A)**

BE SURE TO PRESERVE THE EVIDENCE AND DOCUMENT IT!

### HOW TO REPORT

**IN SCHOOL\*** - Guidance and/or the Principal  
**OUT OF SCHOOL\*** - The local police and/or the school

*\*The county prosecutor is an excellent office to call toward determining the level of the incident (possible hate crime) and recommendations for next step.*

### REMEMBER

**"Victims should know that they are not alone  
and that they have an ally—Be that ally!"**

**Schools must create a safe environment**

The New Jersey Commission  
on Holocaust Education  
P.O. Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625





## Teaching Strategies Holocaust/Genocide Education



### Simulations –

These activities are **not recommended** as a strategy to teach students about the issues of bias, prejudice and the Holocaust/genocide.

There are many other ways to provide content and effective approaches in the classroom. While on the surface it might sound like a good idea to have children simulate a death camp, a beating, etc., but it does not have a positive or lasting impact and might harm the child psychologically and prohibit real learning from taking place. For instance, you would not or should not have an individual be Hitler, a slave owner or a terrorist for the same reason and it may cause others to criticize that youngster. Films, stories, debates, trials, readings, first-hand accounts, discussions, etc., are much better and have a deeper, longer and lasting impact on the students. Teachers should consider their goal of the activity and what type of student learning they anticipate. For example, why reproduce the hate and discomfort when it would be so much better to explore the choices people made and why, and what the impact of those choices was. The bottom line is no matter how prepared the simulation it can never truly replicate the horror. We recommend simulation not be utilized, but the more in-depth approach that the students may learn and fully understand be utilized.

### Fictional Material –

The use of fictional material sounds like a good approach to reach students rather than through non-fiction documentaries, first-hand accounts, but it will work only if the fiction is first presented in a historical or factual context. The students may then utilize skills such as critical thinking, comparing, analysis, etc., when reading or viewing the fictional accounts. To just read the fictional account will not give the students a solid foundation of study as suggested in an excerpt from Lindquist, D. (1998). Developing Holocaust curricula: The content decision-making process. *The Clearing House*, 82(1), 27-33.

The matter of historical accuracy is especially critical when using literature to teach the Holocaust. Teachers must draw a careful distinction between historical truth and literary truth. Historical truth—the acknowledged factual record regarding a given situation—must coexist with literary truth—the establishment of the essence of a particular event—while allowing for literary license to be used as a means of advancing both the story line and the reader's understanding of the situation. The historical record thus establishes what happened, whereas literary truth, if properly and carefully applied, addresses the tone of what happened. Several problems arise as Holocaust educators attempt to establish an appropriate balance between the imperative of historical accuracy and the ability of literature to enhance student learning through its power to express truths about the human experience.

When using literature to teach history, it is necessary to suspend belief at some level if the literature is to be allowed to develop fully. It is vital, however, that literature used to teach the Holocaust fulfills "the promise of truthfulness" (Wyschogrod 1998, 10), so that historical accuracy is maintained.



September 2021

**TO:** New Jersey Educators

**FROM:** New Jersey Human Relations Council  
New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education

**RE:** Promoting Diversity in New Jersey's Schools



New Jersey is one of the most diverse states in the nation. Our state is home to people from many racial and ethnic backgrounds, varied religious affiliations and we speak over 120 different languages. We in New Jersey should be proud of this diversity, for learning about others is a very important way to reduce bias, bigotry and intolerance. However, New Jersey ranks number four (4) in the country in the number of hate crimes reported by its citizens against people or their property.

One of the factors preventing students from greater understanding and appreciation of one another is that only four other states have more segregated school systems than New Jersey. Former Chief Justice Deborah Poritz, when speaking about a state Supreme Court ruling, cited a "constitutional imperative to prevent segregation in our public schools"; "as a state, we are losing ground," Poritz wrote. "We have paid lip service to the idea of diversity in our schools, but in the real world we have not succeeded. Students attending racially imbalanced schools are denied the benefits that come from learning and associating with students from different backgrounds, races and cultures, and as research has demonstrated this understanding reduces prejudice."

In spite of the many efforts of citizens, educational institutions, the legislative, judicial and executive branches of government, and human services agencies and organizations, the housing patterns of New Jersey continue to keep many of our school districts segregated. Therefore, since changing the housing patterns in New Jersey will take many years, it is up to the schools to work toward integration NOW, not just thinking that housing, busing, school redistricting or open enrollment will effect a cure for our segregated schools.

We would like to suggest some school exchange opportunities for suburban, rural and urban students that are easily available to support the goal of integration:

- Mix It Up At Lunch
- Special Programs and Assemblies
- Teacher In-Service Days
- Cultural Diversity Days



- Study Circles
- Trips
- Informal Sports Program
- School Exchange Days

It all begins with a phone call, e-mail, or text message to a fellow school educator in another district. There is no better way to reduce prejudice than by having OPEN AND HONEST DIALOGUE in order to have the educational community partnering to rid our schools and community of bias, bigotry and intolerance

We look forward to establishing greater communications on this process in order to promote better understanding of the needs and expectations of the diverse population in New Jersey.





# Post

Join Our E-mail List!

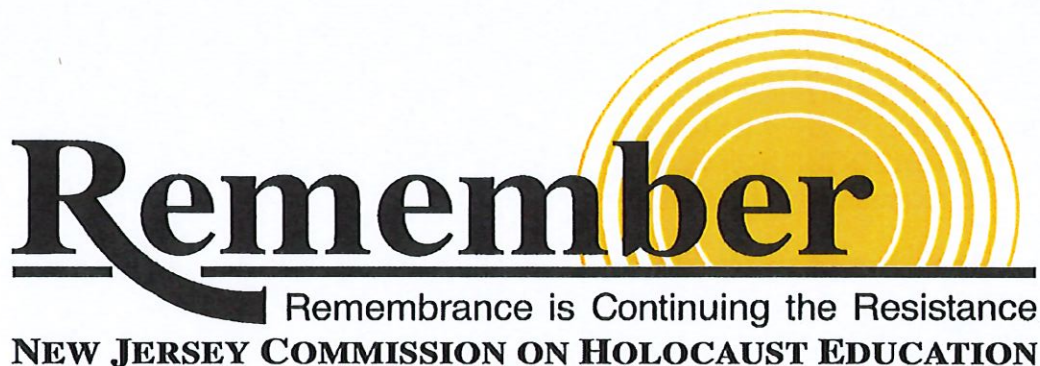


**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST**

**RECEIVE INFORMATION ON UPCOMING  
PROGRAMS/EVENTS**

To receive updated information regarding the Commission via e-mail, please subscribe by emailing us at [holocaust@doe.nj.gov](mailto:holocaust@doe.nj.gov).

Also all upcoming events/programs, etc. can be viewed on this site. There is a calendar on the homepage that is updated daily.







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<http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>



**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUEST**

If you or your school would like to schedule a professional development program, please fill out the form below and return to the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education.

Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to:  
New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education  
P.O. Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625



# **SUMMER SEMINAR FOR EDUCATORS TO THE INFAMOUS SITES OF THE HOLOCAUST**

## **Summer of 2022**

**Trip led by Maud Dahme  
Child Survivor of the Holocaust**



**Sign up on our listserv to  
be notified directly with updated information  
or email us at [holocaust@doe.nj.gov](mailto:holocaust@doe.nj.gov)**

**As more information becomes available, it will  
also be posted on our web site**



## **SAMPLE ITINERARY**

### **SUMMER SEMINAR FOR EDUCATORS**

**Trip led by Maud Dahme, Child Survivor of the Holocaust**

**BERLIN, GERMANY** — Arrival in Berlin. Clear Customs and meet Tour Escort who will remain with the group until departure from Warsaw. Proceed on a guided panoramic tour of Berlin. Visit Potsdammer Square, Topography of Terror exhibit, Grunwald Train Station, Bayerschen Platz, Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag, Friedrichstrasse, Unter Den Linden, Oranienburger Synagogue, monument to the Christian Wives of Jewish Men, the Humboldt University site of "Book Burning Memorial".

**BERLIN, PRAGUE** — Travel to Wannsee Villa (Site of the "Final Solution" decision), then travel to Prague, the Capital of the Czech Republic.

**PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC** — Tour of Prague with visits to the Royal Castle of Hradcany, St. Vitus Cathedral, across the striking Charles Bridge into the Old Quarter of Prague. Travel to Terezin, to experience the town and fortress of Terezin, which was founded in 1780 and during WWII became the Nazi concentration camp which they called Theresienstadt.

**KRAKOW, POLAND** — The tour will focus on the Jewish sights with visits to the Jewish Ghetto, the Jewish Museum, the Old-New Synagogue (Alt-neu), and the Old Jewish Cemetery and highlights of the city including the Wawel Castle and Cathedral, the Main Market Square and the Kazimierz district. Also visits to the Old Synagogue, the Jewish Museum, Remu Synagogue, the Popper Synagogue, and the Temple Synagogue.

**KRAKOW, POLAND** — Tour Auschwitz/Birkenau for an experience of the concentration camps. Visit the museum in Oswiecim and Wadowice on the way back to Krakow.

**KRAKOW/LUBLIN/WARSAW** — Depart Krakow and travel via Lublin to Majdanek, the Nazi concentration camp and then continue to Warsaw.

**WARSAW, POLAND** — Visit the Royal Route, Chopin's Monument, Lazenski Park, and the old town. Then an extensive tour of the Treblinka concentration camp.

**WARSAW/AMSTERDAM** — Tour the Warsaw Ghetto, The Ghetto Uprising Memorial, Mila 18, Jewish Historical Institute and Museum, Gesia Cemetery, Nozyk Synagogue, the Jewish State Theater and Umschlag Platz then transfer to Warsaw airport for the departure flight to Amsterdam.

**AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND** — Tour Vugt, a Dutch concentration camp.

**AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND** — Begin day with an early morning walking tour with local guide before breakfast. Tour of Anne Frank's House and the Jewish Historical Museum, the Portuguese Synagogue and the former Jewish Quarter of Amsterdam.

**AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND** — Tour Vierhouten, a hidden village in the woods, and visit Oldebroek and Elburg (some of Maud's hidden sites).



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<http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>

September, 2021

Dear Educator:

The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education is committed to teaching ALL students the importance of the simple human dignity bestowed upon each of us and to practice respect for all people expressed through our thoughts, our words and our actions to build a more responsible, humane citizenry. To this end, the Commission collaborated with New Jersey educators and the Office of Special Education Programs in the Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services at the New Jersey Department of Education to create *Teaching about the Holocaust/Genocide, Prejudice and Bullying Using UDL (Universal Design for Learning)*.

The lesson plans were developed by New Jersey educators utilizing the principles of UDL – Teaching the Diverse Classroom. The lessons deal with the subject of the Holocaust/genocide, prejudice, discrimination and bullying prevention, as well as, acceptance, perseverance, and making choices.

We believe that they will be a valuable resource for classroom instruction as teachers implement the required curriculum and to facilitate a positive school climate. The Commission values your input for future revisions and also requests other lessons to implement other curriculum developed by the Commission utilizing the UDL concept. The suggestions may be sent to ([holocaust@doe.nj.gov](mailto:holocaust@doe.nj.gov)) The lesson plans and other material about the Holocaust and genocide may be viewed on our website <http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Cervi".

Doug Cervi  
Executive Director  
New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education