



***Conversations with Survivors- Preserving the Voices of The Holocaust
Can Healing Occur: Building Bridges with THE OTHER***

Tova Friedman - - one of the youngest children to survive Auschwitz - - discovers that her daughter Talya has hired a nanny from Germany. Tova is upset that Stephanie, a German nanny will be taking care of her Jewish grandchildren. Stephanie has never met a Jew in her hometown in Germany, and she has her own impressions and assumptions about Jews.

This film challenges the participants to confront difficult questions:

- Can people learn to live together, burdened by preconception and long-held fears.
- Can they accept each other or do they see one another as “The Other?”
- Is it possible not to blame children for the sins of their ancestors?

At Raritan Valley Community College, Tova, met Reinhold, a staff member at RVCC, who confessed to the assembled group at a program with a panel of Holocaust Survivors, that his father was an SS Officer. Reinhold shared that after the Holocaust, when he was a child growing up in New Jersey, he had asked his father questions about the war and was beaten. His father threatened to disown Reinhold if he pursued this line of questioning. It was a secret never to be uncovered. Reinhold publically apologized for his father’s actions and those of the Nazi Party.

Stephanie is a student at RVCC who is interested in knowing more about the Jewish religion and traditions. As the third generation, Stephanie is farther removed from the History of The Holocaust and better understands the impact on the generations.

The filmmaker, Harry Hillard, captures a moving conversation between Tova, Taya, Reinhold, and Stephanie as they share their personal stories and raise the questions:

Is it possible to co-exist with THE OTHER? Is reconciliation possible or necessary for healing?





INSTITUTE FOR HOLOCAUST & GENOCIDE STUDIES

AT RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Can Healing Occur: Building Bridges - Conversations with THE OTHER



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