

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST/GENOCIDE EDUCATION



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Dear New Jersey Educators,

Recently, The New Jersey Commission of Holocaust Education began the idea for a website that incorporates both Holocaust and Genocide curriculum and the most popular forms of social media. With the objective of making this material more appealing and relevant to students, the website, Generations Against Genocide, provides a way for students to translate what they learn into the classroom into their personal lives. Students, ideally, will disseminate pictures, links, videos, and other interactive projects with their family, friends, and the outside community.

However, this website relies upon two crucial factors—the teacher and the classroom environment. After visiting the URL listed at the bottom of the page for ideas, you can begin crafting a classroom project based upon the material discussed in the classroom. After creating the framework for the project, you are encouraged to create your own personal webpage for that specific project, using Wikispaces, Weebly, Wordpress, Blackboard, or any other website used by your school community. After inviting students to become a member, involving them in the process, you can begin posting the aforementioned, pictures, links, videos, and other resources related to your project. After these steps are complete, students should be encouraged to post these different materials on their own Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram sites, involving the outside community with the work they do in the classroom.

We are hopeful that this will help expand the curriculum for Holocaust and Genocide education, allowing students to make this very important material a part of their everyday lives. Thank you for taking the time to explore this new opportunity, and we are confident that in using technology to the height of its potential, we can truly involve students in an interactive form of education.

If you have any questions regarding this new project, feel free to e-mail us at...

Sincerely,

<http://channelsofchange.weebly.com/#/>

Visit our web site at: nj.gov/education/holocaust

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Social Network Program

The expansion of technology has had large influences on the sphere of education. This particular generation of students has become increasingly connected and progressively fast-paced, a plethora of information available to them at the click of the button.

Therefore, we have taken on a project that relies on the fusion of past in present. The newly created website, "Channels of Change," <http://channelsofchange.weebly.com> attempts to appeal to adolescents who are immersed in a culture of connection, but are often discouraged from grappling with the heavy tasks of memorialization and proactive resistance to human rights abuses. This particular site, however, presents a plethora of information in an aesthetically appealing and comprehensible way, ranging from an interactive map of historical and modern genocides to modern YouTube videos of music that reflect post-memory of the Holocaust. In this way, this particular website transitions effortlessly into the realm of pedagogy. It fits into many of the mandatory objectives set for teachers by the state that involve Holocaust and Genocide education, concurrently providing resources for teachers who plan on designing a unit centered upon this subject. Overall, it gives a space for visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners to process the dense and expansive world of the Holocaust, genocides, and human rights.

Nonetheless, the project relies upon the classroom itself. This site encourages individual classrooms, led by a teacher, to explore the different components listed, and generate a "project" that directly relates to the material. A particular group of students could be inspired by one of the films listed on the site, a particular song, a New Jersey survivor's story, or something as simple as a drawing by a child from Auschwitz. From here, with the help of the teacher, they will be asked to create an "experience" with the particular subject. For example, students could create a photo-journey, or YouTube video, documenting their interaction with a visiting survivor. This project, upon completion, will be posted on a "wikispace" page, created by the teacher. Once this is finalized, the teacher will submit the project to the larger Channels of Change site, which will feature the link for the public to view. From here, students will be encouraged to share their projects on their personal social media sites, opening the exploration of human rights to the larger community.

Therefore, when considering this website as a part of your classroom, understand your broader role. As a teacher, administrator (etc.), you have the power to lead students down a path that involves an awareness of social responsibility and acceptance of diversity. This may be the first step in incorporating technology in a positive way, and expanding your students' world to fit essential understandings about the memorialization of victims and preservation of human life. Thus, view this website as yet another tool for an educator who is dedicated to making a difference, one student at a time.

Visit our web site at: nj.gov/education/holocaust

Procedure for Teachers

Step 1: Create A Wikispace, Weebly, WordPress, or Blackboard (or whichever site is endorsed by your school) homepage!

Create a homepage for the class Holocaust/Genocide/Human Rights project.

Step 2: Choose A Topic!

Create a topic for your wikispace page and give a general summary of what your project is about.

Step 3: Get Started!

Put your project on your wikispace page. Pictures, videos, and written descriptions are gladly welcomed and encouraged!

Step 4: Results!

Recommend that your students post your project on their social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) to share with their friends!

Final Step:

Connecting to Social Media Sites—“How-To” Resources

Wikispaces

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34LRmAR50ME
&noredirect=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34LRmAR50ME&noredirect=1)

Weebly

<http://kb.weebly.com/social-icons.html>

WordPress

[https://wordpress.org/plugins/really-simple-facebook-
twitter-share-buttons/](https://wordpress.org/plugins/really-simple-facebook-twitter-share-buttons/)

Blackboard

[http://tlt.ntu.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/Social-
Networking-with-Connect-5.pdf](http://tlt.ntu.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/Social-Networking-with-Connect-5.pdf)