

Suggested Readings for You and Your Teenager

The following selections are recommended for grades 9-12 but you should always review a recommendation for its appropriateness for your teenager. There are many differences in levels of maturity between grades 9 and 12.

Shtetl: The Life and Death of a Small Town and the World of Polish Jews by Eva Hoffman

The World Must Know by Michael Berenbaum

Never Again: The History of the Holocaust by Martin Gilbert

Perpetrators, Victims, Bystanders: The Jewish Catastrophe 1933-1945 by Raul Hilberg

Never to Forget by Milton Meltzer

Assignment Rescue by Varian Fry

The Hidden Children of the Holocaust by Esther Kustanowitz

Darkness Over Denmark by Ellen Levine

Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport by Mark Jonathan Edwards

Rescuers: Portraits of Moral Courage in the Holocaust by Gay Block and Malka Drucker

They Fought Back by Yuri Suhl

The Cage by Ruth Minsky Sender

Night by Elie Wiesel

Alicia: My Story by Alicia Jurman Applebaum

The Other Victims by Ina R. Friedman

The Children of Izieu: A Human Tragedy by Serge Klarsfeld

All But My Life by Gerda Weissmann Klein

Witness: Voices from the Holocaust by Joshua M. Greene and Shiva Kumar

Survival in Auschwitz by Primo Levi

I Never Saw Another Butterfly by Hanna Volavkova, ed.

Maus I and Maus II by Art Spiegelman

My Hundred Children by Lena Kuchler Silberman.

Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo by Zlata Filipovic

Beyond the Killing Fields: Voices of Nine Cambodian Survivors in America by Usha Welaratna

Genocide: The Systematic Killing of a People by Linda Jacob Altman

On the Internet: Some Good Resources on Prejudice, Discrimination, & the Holocaust

NJ Commission on Holocaust Education
www.state.nj.us/njded/holocaust

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
www.ushmm.org/

Simon Wiesenthal Center and its Museum of Tolerance
www.wiesenthal.com and
<http://motlc.wiesenthal.com>

Cybrary of the Holocaust
<http://www.remember.org>

Hatewatch <http://hatewatch.com>

Southern Poverty Law Center and its Teaching Tolerance Project
www.SPLCenter.org and
www.teachingtolerance.org

The Nizkor Project www.nizkor.org/



PO Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

Email: councilholoeducators@excite.com

WEB site: www.che-nj.org



Parents' Guide:

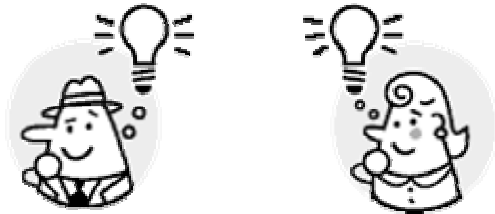
Talking with Your High School Teenager about Prejudice, Discrimination, Genocide, and the Holocaust

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that every has.” *Margaret Mead*

You and Your Teenager

The teenage years may be difficult years for the parents and the teenager. While parents

continue to fulfill their obligations as parents, the young adult is struggling to develop independence and to explore and expand her/his world. As your teenager engages in this exploration and struggle, the temptations and challenges faced will be many, both good and bad. Remember, you are still the most important guide your teenager has during this passage from teenager to adulthood.



A Few Things A Parent

Can Do

- Keep the lines of communication open between you and your teenager.
- Know what your teenager is viewing on the Internet, on TV, and in the movies. Be familiar with her/his choices in video games and music. These can be sources of valuable information but they can also be sources of hate messages and senseless violence. If you have concerns about her/his choices, talk with your teenager about them. **Listen** to her/his views.
- Ask to meet friends. Introduce yourself to the parents of her/his friends. Know where the friends live and how to contact them, if needed.
- Display an interest in her/his school work not only in the grades earned.
- Set **reasonable and age-appropriate** guidelines, restrictions, curfews, and rules for your teenager. S/he is still your child.
- Be consistent in your application of the guidelines and in your expectations for your teenager.
- Show them your pride and approval when they display compassion and concern for others. Model these behaviors yourself when you interact with your teenager and others.

Activities To Do Together

1. Read about one of the museums listed below then visit it together. Involve your teenager in the selection process. After your visit, discuss what you have seen and what had the greatest impact on each of you.
 - a. The Tenement Museum in NYC
 - b. The Irish Hunger Memorial in NYC
 - c. Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty via Liberty State Park in Jersey City, NJ or NYC
 - d. National Museum of the American Indian in NYC
 - e. The Museum of Jewish Heritage in NYC
 - f. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC
 - g. Any museum that focuses on ethnic or cultural background or prejudice and discrimination such as the Museum of Tolerance.
2. Visit the websites of the museums to read and learn about them.
3. Take the family to attend a play, concert, dance, street fair, parade or other cultural event that is based upon or drawn from a race or ethnicity different from that of your family. Find out more about the basis for the production or activity.
4. As a family, attend services at a variety of churches, synagogues, and temples to learn about different faiths.
5. Select television programs or films to watch together and critique them for stereotypes, cultural misinformation, bias, and other forms of prejudicial messages. Also, select music and games to examine and critique.
6. As a family, research various charitable organizations that focus on issues that concern you and members of your family. Jointly select one or more to which you will contribute as a family.

Talking with your teenager about prejudice, Holocaust, and genocide...

- Discuss the definitions of the terms “Holocaust” and “genocide.”
- Avoid comparing the Holocaust with other genocides. Each tragic historical event has its own unique characteristics.
- Avoid simple answers to complex history. Refer your teenager to sources where s/he will find clarification. (see listed Internet sites)
- Avoid stereotypical descriptions. No single group can or should be reduced to a simple one-dimensional description.
- The images and written materials that you use with your teenager should be appropriate and sensitive to her/his level of maturity.