

Eyewitness to History: A Holocaust Survivor Speaks

Rudi Florian: Propaganda & Personal Responsibility



Born to devout Catholics in 1934 in Germany, Rudi Florian's parents opposed the Nazis but didn't dare do so openly. As a child, Rudi's teachers were Nazis and his schoolbooks contained Nazi propaganda. When he was 10 years old, he briefly served in the Hitler Youth until his mother came up with an excuse to have him released. When Russian troops invaded Germany, Rudi's family was displaced to Poland. Eventually, they moved to East Berlin, where Rudi encountered Communist propaganda.

Later in life, Rudi made a pledge to "join those who warned that genocide can happen again to any group of people, anywhere..." and served in the United States Air Force for 30 years. Now retired, Rudi educates others about the importance of remember the Holocaust, the value of human rights, and the sanctity of life.

This program also features testimony from Holocaust survivor Esther Clifford. You can find more information about Esther at [Echoes and Reflections](#) and the [USC Shoah Foundation](#).

Questions to Consider

How and why did ordinary people in Germany contribute to the persecution of their Jewish neighbors?

What role did propaganda play in the Holocaust? How and why did the Nazi Party target youth with propaganda?

What makes propaganda so dangerous? How can you guard yourself against harmful propaganda?



Mizel Museum Virtual Programs Colorado Academic Standards *Eyewitness to History: A Holocaust Survivor Speaks (9th-12th Grades)*

This document lists the Colorado Academic Standards met by the Mizel Museum's virtual Eyewitness to History programs for 9th through 12th grade (also available for 6th-8th). This program aligns with requirements in the Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Public Schools Bill (Colorado HB20-1336) and is included in the Colorado Department of Education's Teaching About the Holocaust and Genocide Resource Bank. This lesson series was developed in partnership with the USC Shoah Foundation. Contact us with questions or to book at details@mizelmuseum.org.

Jack Adler: A Slave Laborer in the Holocaust

- CH20-GR.HS-S.3-GLE.3
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.5
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.1
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.2-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.3

Jack Adler: Countering Hate with Respect

- CH20-GR.HS-S.3-GLE.3
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.5
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.7
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.9
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.1
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.2-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.3

Paula Burger: A Young Girl Among the Bielski Partisans

- CH20-GR.HS-S.3-GLE.3
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.5
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.9
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.1
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.2-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.3

Rudi Florian: Propaganda & Personal Responsibility

- CH20-GR.HS-S.3-GLE.3
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.5
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.7
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.9
- RW20-GR.H1-S.2-GLE.2
- RW20-GR.H2-S.2-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.1
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.2-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.3
- VA20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.1

Osi Sladek: A Courageous Escape from Hate

- CH20-GR.HS-S.3-GLE.3
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.5
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.7
- CH20-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.9
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.1
- SS22-GR.HS-S.1-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.2-GLE.3
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.2
- SS22-GR.HS-S.4-GLE.3