

The Importance of Holocaust Education

Since the United Nations stands up for human rights, we urge member states to develop educational programs that teach about the Holocaust and its lessons. As Holocaust survivors who are witnesses to history, we are passing on the torch of remembrance to the next generation through our commemorative activities and exchanges with youth and other interested individuals. At our Centre, we hold intergenerational programs with high school students where they relate the lessons of the Holocaust to their own lives. The feedback we get shows that these exchanges are having an impact on these students' lives. Their remarks include: "She showed me the importance of perseverance and strength." "It made me appreciate my life and realize how lucky I am. I will share it with everyone, even my own kids one day." "It doesn't matter what colour you are. We are all human."

As we write books and give video testimony, our hope is that students will be inspired to be vigilant and fight against anti-Semitism, discrimination and racism. The Holocaust is a reminder to humanity of the indifference of the world to genocide.

We encourage the UN to continue its outreach program that condemns denial of the Holocaust and organizes special events such as film screenings, exhibits, and commemorative activities. It is important to help teachers develop educational materials so they can integrate them into their school curricula. Holocaust education should be a compulsory subject, taught in every high school. Too many children around the world know little or nothing about the Holocaust.

We hope the youth of today will carry our legacy into the future and the world learns about the Holocaust. It is our hope that our slogan "Never Again" will one day apply to all people regardless of their religious beliefs or colour of their skin.

**Members of the Drop-in Centre for Holocaust Survivors
Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors
Montreal, Quebec, Canada**