KRISTALLNACHT: Night of Broken Glass

A “Reading and Remembrance 2006” Activity Guide

by Ennio A. Paola

KRISTALLNACHT – Night of Broken Glass

A “READING & REMEMBRANCE” ACTIVITY

Grade Levels 7—12

Curriculum Focus: Holocaust Studies

Program Description

Uncover the Kristallnacht Program of November 9 and 10, 1938 to discover its power and to realize it’s historic significance in understanding contemporary issues and events when nations demonized and dehumanize targeted groups.

Lesson Plan

STUDENT OBJECTIVES

• to understand this past news story
• to develop a respect for lessons learned (moral of the story) from this period in history
• to review current events with insights gained through prior knowledge and with an understanding of Kristallnacht
• create, record and air a “Reading and Remembrance” Kristallnacht audio program set for broadcast at 2:10 P.M. November 10, 2006

MATERIALS

• Computer with Internet Access
• “Kristallnacht: Night of Broken Glass – Movie Trailer” (Available on-line as a DWAC “Reading and Remembrance 2006 Resource”)

Procedures

1. VIEW
   Begin the lesson by viewing “Kristallnacht: Night of Broken Glass – Movie Trailer”.
   http://www.dwac.ca/movies/KristallnachtTrailer.mov

2. DURING SCREENING:
   1.) Take note of individuals, groups and institutions directly affected by this event
   2.) Focus on final text image which looms large and asks the question “WHY?”

3. RESEARCH (VIA THE INTERNET)
   Gather information and materials highlighting both the causes and effects of “Kristallnacht”.

4. READ
   Read the poem “First they came …” attributed to Pastor Martin Niemöller.
   http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_they_came ...

5. DISCUSS
   Discuss what the poem implied in the aftermath of “Kristallnacht” November 9 & 10, 1938 and what it implies for present day witnesses to contemporary global conflicts.

6. WRITE
   Compose a piece titled “I Am Not A Giant” based on the idea that citizens/individuals; singularly, have both a responsibility and a duty to take a stand/to make a difference, no matter how small the return may be on the noblest of efforts.

6. BROADCAST
   Record (or Perform Live) “I Am Not A Giant” for “Reading and Remembrance 2006” programing set for broadcast @ 2:10 PM, Friday, November 10, 2006.