

# **Through Their Eyes - Original Project Documents**

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#### **Description**

##### **Through Their Eyes; A Survivor's Story**

The program's intent is to involve the second and third generation adult child of Survivors in the telling of their parents' and grandparent's survival stories. However, anyone who knew the survivor such as a friend might also participate. We feel these kinds of programs simply must take place now since the window of opportunity to keep the survivors involved in the Holocaust education process is closing rapidly, and we need to take advantage of their relationship with the second generation while they are still with us.

Our pilot program began by editing previously recorded oral testimonies from Survivors to an appropriate length for classroom use. This edited tape can last anywhere from 9 to 15 minutes. The Second/Third Generation individual or friend would accompany the tape to a classroom or assembly to augment the edited tape by "filling in" information, answering questions and being a conduit for enlarging on the story. If the survivor is still living, editing can be done with input but if the survivor is deceased, this individual will need to review the tape and decide on what is to be included.

Our first tapes/DVD's have about 2-3 minute segments of the survivor speaking, also using still photos from the survivor, from USHMM etc freezing on a still and allowing the speaker (2nd Gen adult) to supplement what the survivor said. The speaker can then re-start the DVD for the next segment. Overall, the total presentation is comprised of several segments with information then provided between segments in order to capture and hold the audience's attention. This also permits the speaker to allow for the length of time allotted to him/her. The presentation could be done in as little as 20 - 30 minutes or be expanded to more than 50 minutes depending on the time limitations since the speaker is supplementing the DVD in telling the story. We created ours to ideally be suited to a 50 minute classroom.

A curriculum has also been created in order to fully train each participant with background info on both the rise of the Nazis and the Holocaust as well as assisting in providing information on the historical context of that survivor's testimony. The participant will also be coached in how best to approach classroom situations.