Fertile Question: *How do I know what’s good and evil?*

Core Content Area 2: The Human Spirit in Times of Chaos

**TOPIC 2.2: Holocaust Case Studies**

**Depthing Understanding: Let us Remember**

In this lesson students explore a range of interest-based topics associated with the Holocaust.

**Teachers: Before You Start!**

1. This section contains a wide range of work units and activities based on topics associated with the Holocaust.

**For students to explore interest-based topics associated with the Holocaust select from the following activities:**

**Anti-Semitism Throughout History**

The roots of anti-Semitism; prejudice against the Jews; go back to ancient times. Throughout history, the seeds of misunderstanding can be traced to the position of the Jews as a minority religious group. This unit of work contains excellent background information, teaching and learning activities and worksheets.

**Hitler’s Rise to Power**

In the century and a half before 1933, the people of Germany created more enduring literature and music, more profound theology and philosophy, and more advanced science and scholarship than did the people of any other country in the world and yet it was in this country that Nazism developed. This unit of work contains excellent background information, teaching and learning activities and worksheets.

**Pre-War Nazi Germany**

Seizure of power gave the Nazis enormous control over every aspect of German life. The Nazis could use the machinery of government; the police, courts, schools, newspapers and radio; to implement their racist beliefs. Jews, who made up less than one per cent of the total population in 1933, were the principal target of this attack. This unit of work contains excellent background information, teaching and learning activities and worksheets.

**The Holocaust**

The term *Holocaust* comes from a Greek word that means "burnt whole" or "consumed by fire". Between 1939 and 1945, nearly six million Jews died in the Holocaust along with five million non-Jews. These were not accidental deaths or casualties of war, but planned mass executions. Along with these eleven million human beings, a way of life, an entire European Jewish culture rich in traditions, vanished as well. This unit of work contains excellent background information, teaching and learning activities and worksheets.

**Resistance**

When the horrors of the Holocaust were revealed, many people wondered how it was possible for the Nazis to kill so many people without meeting overwhelming resistance. This unit of work contains excellent background information, teaching and learning activities and worksheets.

**Bystanders, Perpetrators and Rescuers**

For the most part, the nations of the world offered little assistance to the victims of the Holocaust. German plans for the annihilation of the Jews could not have succeeded without the active cooperation of non-Germans in occupied Europe. A long tradition of anti-Semitism aided the Nazis in their efforts. This unit of work contains excellent background information, teaching and learning activities and worksheets.