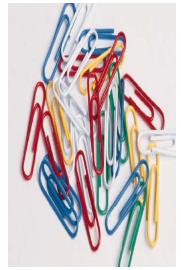


THE CONNECTED

April, 2008

Special Edition

Mission Statement: The Mission of Crisis Connection Inc. is to work in partnership with communities to empower victims, survivors & persons affected by domestic & sexual violence through confidential crisis intervention, education and advocacy in Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Perry and Spencer Counties. www.crisisconnectioninc.org



P.O. Box 903 Jasper, IN 47547 24-Hour Hotline 1.800.245.4580 cci@psci.net
Dubois County 812.482.1555 Perry County 812.547.8878 Spencer County 812.649.2303

PAPER CLIPS TO END VIOLENCE ?

This Special Edition of 'The Connected' is dedicated to the issue of tolerance. So much of our mission and daily work is about change and making a difference. When we came upon the story of a small town in Tennessee and the essential miracle they performed in that same endeavor, we feel impelled to share it.

Our library has a copy of the dvd documentary and the book, "6 Million Paper Clips: The Making Of A Holocaust Museum" for lending.

We are also available for presentations on stereotypes, anti-bullying, gender equity and ending violence. **We challenge all of you to wear a paper clip on your lapel and share this powerful story.**

The film takes viewers from the initial stages of the project and follows it through to its fruition, as the project generates an outpouring of support from around the world as word spreads. When all was said and done, the students had amassed not only millions of paperclips, but thousands of letters from 19 countries and 49 states, as well as paper-clip contributions from the likes of Tom Hanks, Bill Cosby, Tom Bosley, George W. Bush, Steven Spielberg, Madeleine Albright, Bill Clinton and many German citizens.

"Paper Clips" is rated "G" with a running time of 78 minutes. There is also an educational version available that includes lesson plans, student handouts, etc.

<http://www.paperclipsmovie.com/>



A CLASS DIVIDED

In response to the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. over thirty years ago, Jane Elliott devised a controversial and startling, "Blue Eyes/Brown Eyes" exercise. Crisis Connection has access to a video showing the exercise entitled, "A Class Divided" and has shared it with several audiences. The exercise labels participants as inferior or superior based solely upon the color of their eyes and exposes them to the experience of being a minority. An accompanying handout is attached for your review.

FROM:

<http://janeelliott.com/learningmaterials.htm>



CULTURAL COMPETENCY

The Child Welfare League has some excellent resources on diversity at <http://www.cwla.org/programs/culture/default.htm>. Copies of three of their books are in our library.

Also – Joan Knies attended an Indiana Youth Institute Conference and has resources available for the asking on 'Social Capital' from the Heartland Center for Leadership Development.

The Railcar's Beginning

In 1998 eighth grade students at Whitwell Middle School began an after-school study of the Holocaust. The goal of this study was to teach students the importance of respecting different cultures as well as understanding the effects of intolerance. As the study progressed, the sheer number of Jews who were exterminated by the Nazis overwhelmed the students. Six million was a number that the students could not remotely grasp. The students asked Sandra Roberts and David Smith if they could collect something to help them understand the enormity of this extermination. The teachers told the students to ask permission of principal, Linda M. Hooper. She gave the students permission to begin a collection, IF, they could find something to collect that would have meaning to the project. After some research on the Internet, the students decided to collect paper clips because they discovered that paper clips were 1) invented by Norwegians and 2) that Norwegians wore them on their lapels as a silent protest against Nazi occupation in WWII.

Students began bringing in paper clips. They wrote letters to famous people asking for a paper clip. The students also asked people to share their reasons for sending a paper clip. To date approximately 30 million paperclips have been sent to Whitwell Middle School. In addition, the project has received 30 thousand + letters, documents, and artifacts. All of these have been counted and catalogued by students and are on display in the Children's Holocaust Memorial and in the school library.

The paper clip collection has become a part of the "Children's Holocaust Memorial" created by the students, staff, and community of Whitwell Middle School. The Memorial contains 11 million paper clips housed in an authentic German transport car honoring the lives of all people murdered by the Nazis. And eleven million other paper clips are contained in a monument honoring the children of Terezin. Eighteen (for chai-Hebrew for life) butterflies (the Christian symbol of renewal) enhance the grounds around the rail car. The students, staff, and community of Whitwell Middle School have transformed the car from a death car into a symbol of renewed life honoring the lives of those murdered by the Nazis. For generations of Whitwell students, a paper clip will never again be just a paper clip. Instead, the paper clip is a reminder of the importance of perseverance, empathy, tolerance, and understanding.

http://www.whitwellmiddleschool.org/homepage_pc.cfm?id=78

TEACHING TOLERANCE

www.teachingtolerance.org

Crisis Connection, Inc. has obtained educational materials from the Southern Poverty Law Center, Teaching Tolerance. The educational 'kits' are intended to promote respect for differences and appreciation of diversity in the classroom and beyond.

Titles obtained include: *'One Survivor Remembers'*, *'A Place At The Table'*, *'Shadow of Hate'*, *'Rhinos and Raspberries'*, *'Starting Small'*, *'I Will Be Your Friend'*, *'The Legacy of Rosa Parks'*, and *'The Children's March'*.

'One Survivor Remembers' is designed for use in grades 8-12, this film tells the empowering story of Holocaust survivor Gerda Weissman Klein.

'A Place At The Table' is narrated entirely by young people. This historical documentary for middle and upper grades tells the story of the United States' struggle to ensure liberty and justice for all.

'Rhinos and Raspberries' is a full-color storybook designed to build character and community. It also supports key literacy strategies for students in grades preK-6.

'Starting Small' is designed to be an in-service training tool for early grade educators and profiles exemplary classrooms in which peace, equity and justice are guiding themes.

'I Will Be Your Friend' is a musical anthology for grades 2-5 and teaches activism through music acknowledging our nation's proud tradition of singing for social change.

'The Legacy of Rosa Parks' is a film that brings the Montgomery Bus Boycott alive.

'The Children's March' is a film that tells the heroic story of the young people in Birmingham, Alabama, who brought segregation to its knees.



The Rail Car's History & Journey

The Children's Holocaust Memorial consists of an authentic German rail car that was used to transport victims to concentration, labor, and death camps. The rail car houses eleven million paper clips, one for each victim of the Holocaust. A small park surrounds the car. In the park are eighteen butterflies some inlaid with stained glass and others free standing copper sculptures. There is also a monument honoring the children lost in the Holocaust. The school library houses over thirty thousand documents on CDs, a collection of Holocaust books, and art.

Facts and brief history of the rail car:

This rail car was built in 1917 and used for many purposes over the years. After being bought by a German state-owned company in the late 1970's, the car was used for intra-company transport and then abandoned. During World War II, the Third Reich used this car to transport prisoners to death camps. The car was discovered after the war in Poland, near the town of Chelmno. It was used as a grain car after World War II. The grain holes in the floor and the ventilation hole in the roof were put in after the war. This historic rail car transported 80 to 150 prisoners at a time to the camps. The rail car at Whitwell Middle School was part of the "German Reichsbahn" and is one of the very last remaining "cattle cars" of the Nazi era. This car was located in a railroad museum in Robel, Germany. Peter Schroeder and Dagmar Schroeder Hildebrand (White House correspondents for German newspapers) purchased the car and donated it to Whitwell Middle School. This German rail car, numbered 011-993, was also used in the European film "Stalingrad" and in the U.S. film "Enemy at the Gate".

How the car made it to Whitwell:

When the Schroeders purchased the car from the museum in Robel, they took on the daunting task of getting the car to Whitwell. After inspection by technicians of the German rail company, the car was declared rollable (maximum speed of 30 miles per hour). The German Armed Forces had the car sprayed and disinfected for foreign insects. The "Deutsche Bahn" had a decorative locomotive in front of the car and towed it under official designation "Special Train Holocaust Memorial". The car traveled 300 miles to the German port of Cuxhaven.

By special arrangement with the German Armed Forces, the Memorial Car was placed on the chartered Norwegian freighter "MS Blue Sky" and was transported to the United States port of Baltimore arriving 9/01!

Upon arrival in the United States, the car had to be cleared through customs and the required inspections of the US Dept. of Agriculture. From Baltimore, the CSX Rail Company transported the car to Chattanooga, Tennessee via one of their flatbed rail cars because the wheel gage of the German car conflicted with American rails. Fletcher Trucking Company of Whitwell, Tennessee provided the transportation for the final leg of the trip from Chattanooga to Whitwell Middle School. B & B Crane Company donated the services of an operator along with a crane capable of lifting 600,000 pounds to set the car on the tracks at the Memorial site. The tracks, which the car sits on, were donated by CSX Railroad Company. These tracks were made in Tennessee in 1943.

Members of the community beautified the area surrounding the car.

"The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral forgetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate. Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars.

**DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT DARKNESS;
ONLY LIGHT CAN DO THAT.
HATE CANNOT DRIVE OUT HATE;
ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT".**

~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"What we need in the United States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence and lawlessness, but is love and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who still suffer within our country..."

~ Robert F. Kennedy

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has many resources for teachers striving to help students learn the history of the Holocaust and reflect upon the moral and ethical questions raised by that history.

The Museum has identified topic areas for everyone to consider while studying the Holocaust. An introduction to the topic areas is essential for a sense of the breadth of the history of the Holocaust. These topics provide context for the events of the Holocaust: anti-Semitism, Jewish life in Europe before the Holocaust, the aftermath of World War I, and the Nazi rise to power.

The Museum also has a program entitled: *R3, Remembrance, Reflection, Response*. It is a free online program that encourages young people to think about the lessons of the Holocaust in their own lives. In a world that still confronts hatred and genocide, this program raises serious questions about personal responsibility and individual choice.

Learn more at: <http://R3program.ushmm.org>



The Committee on Conscience maintains a "standing agenda" of situations and issues within its mandate. In order to allow the Committee to take up situations and focus attention on them in a timely manner, the agenda uses graduated categories of urgency:

- WATCH:** The circumstances indicate a serious potential for the eruption of mass violence that would be within the Committee's mandate;
- WARNING:** Organized violence is underway that threatens to become genocide or related crimes against humanity;
- EMERGENCY:** Acts of genocide or related crimes against humanity are occurring or immediately threatened.

Places currently on the standing agenda are

Sudan: Darfur	Democratic Republic of Congo
Sudan: South/Nuba	Chechnya Rwanda

Crisis Connection has a video in our library entitled:
"WITNESSING DARFUR: GENOCIDE EMERGENCY".

It has two components: "Darfur Eyewitness" and "Staring Genocide In The Face"

More information is available online at:

www.darfurgenocide.org, www.savedarfur.org,
www.committeeonconscience.org and <http://www.ushmm.org/conscience/>

THINK GLOBALLY – ACT LOCALLY

CHECK OUT THESE EDUCATIONAL AWARENESS TOOLS:

http://www.themoreyouknow.com/Diversity_Anti_Prejudice/

<http://www.understandingprejudice.org/demos/>



TOLERANCE TOOLS & PLURALISM POINTERS

*Simple ideas for
promoting equity
and celebrating diversity.*

Resources That May Assist You:

www.teachingtolerance.org
www.tolerance.org
www.adl.org
www.usdoj.gov/crs
www.naacp.org
www.nglthf.org
www.pflag.org
www.facing.org
www.fbi.gov/ucr/hatecm.htm
www.pbs.org/niot
www.studycircles.org

DECLARATION OF TOLERANCE

Tolerance is a personal decision that comes from a belief that every person is a treasure. I believe that America's diversity is its strength. I also recognize that ignorance, insensitivity and bigotry can turn that diversity into a source of prejudice and discrimination.

To help keep diversity a well-spring of strength and make America a better place for all, I pledge to have respect for people whose abilities, beliefs, culture, race, sexual identity or other characteristics are different from my own.

To fulfill this pledge, I will....

- *examine my own biases and work to overcome them,
- *set a positive example for my family and friends,
- *work for tolerance in my own community, and
- *speak out against hate and injustice.

Signature _____

Please sign and mail to: 101 Tools, c/o
Tolerance.org, 400 Washington Avenue,
Montgomery, AL 36104
Or you may sign the pledge online at
www.tolerance.org/101_tools/declaration.html

1. Learn the facts about hate crimes and groups.
2. Do something. In the face of hatred, apathy will be interpreted as acceptance. Do your homework – learn hate groups' agendas, symbols and seek advice on how to combat it.
3. Vary your lunch partner.
4. Be fair on roles of mothers and fathers.
5. Look inside yourself to understand your own prejudices, biases and stereotypes.
6. Report sexual harassment.
7. Don't be a bully and don't allow yourself to help another bully.
8. Journal!
9. Learn about The Women's Movement.
10. Draw or make an art project representing your heritage.
11. Think about heroic contributions that may go unnoticed (i.e. caregivers, shelter/hotline volunteers).
12. Help someone younger make an illustrated list of what friends do and what friendship means.
13. Involve all of your family in selecting organizations to support with charitable gifts of time, talent, and treasure.
14. Eat at an ethnic restaurant. Learn about more than just food.
15. Point out stereotypes and cultural misinformation depicted in movies, TV shows, computer games, and other media.
16. Refuse to support organizations that produce/make a profit off of hate.
17. Don't buy or throw away playthings that glorify violence.
18. Look into issues that may divide us: economic inequality, immigration, homosexuality, discrimination in housing/employment/education.

*Print & Sign Our
'Anti-Bullying Pledge' at
www.crisisconnectioninc.org !*

NO NAME CALLING WEEK

No Name-Calling Week is an annual week of educational activities aimed at ending name-calling of all kinds and providing schools with the tools and inspiration to launch an on-going dialogue about ways to eliminate bullying in their communities.

For More Info: WWW.NONAMECALLINGWEEK.ORG

NO STICKS. NO STONES.
NO DISSING

OTHER BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY TO INCREASE AWARENESS:

**The Diary of Anne Frank* by Anne Frank.

**The Girls* by Amy Goldman Koss **Odd Girl Out* by Rachel Simmons

Beyond the Golden Rule: A Parent's Guide to Preventing and Responding to Prejudice, the age-specific sections offer practical advice about the challenges and rewards of parenting in today's diverse world.

~~~~~ Download it at: <http://www.tolerance.org/parents/index.jsp>

*Respect is the cornerstone of all our interactions and behaviors. We acknowledge the dignity and worth of one another, and strive never to diminish another by our conduct or our attitudes.*  
-Southern Poverty Law Center

### **"Mix It Up!"**

Mix It Up seeks to break down the barriers between students, improve intergroup relations and help schools create inclusive communities where there are fewer misunderstandings that can lead to conflicts, bullying or violence. Mix It Up provides tools, resources and ideas to help youth and their adult allies take action. Check out: <http://www.tolerance.org/teens/index.jsp>

## **ANTI DEFAMATION LEAGUE CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS:**

Curriculum Connections is a collection of original lesson plans and resources that help K-12 educators integrate multicultural, anti-bias, and social justice themes into their curricula. Each edition is organized around a particular topic or theme, and a new edition is published three to four times per school year.

Learn more at:

<http://www.adl.org/education/>

[http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum\\_connections/winter\\_2005/](http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum_connections/winter_2005/)



## **IT TAKES A TEAM**

<http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/cgi-bin/iowa/issues/itat/index.html>

The Women's Sports Foundation is committed to creating an athletic climate that is respectful and safe for all people and eliminating barriers to all girls being active and healthy. It Takes A Team! Educational Campaign for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Sport is an education project focused on eliminating homophobia as a barrier to all women and men participating in sport. Their primary goals are to develop and disseminate practical educational information and resources to athletic administrators, coaches, parents, and athletes at the high school and college levels to make sport safe and welcoming for all.