Hatred and Modern Atrocities: Understanding Genocide

The Holocaust was a tragedy that consumed 6 million Jewish lives and a further 2 million non-Jewish Communists, dissidents, homosexuals, and mentally disabled people. After this mass-atrocity concluded and the scope of the horror committed by the Nazis was revealed, the rallying cry for the global community became “never again”. However, since the Holocaust, many different genocides have happened. We will be researching modern Genocide and creating informative presentations for the class.

What is Genocide?

Genocide is a term created during the Holocaust and declared an international crime in the 1948 United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The Convention defines genocide as any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

a. Killing members of the group;
b. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
c. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
d. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
e. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

The specific "intent to destroy" particular groups is unique to genocide. A closely related category of international law, crimes against humanity, is defined as widespread or systematic attacks against civilians.

STEP 1: CHOOSE A TOPIC

Your group of 4 will be responsible for examining, analyzing, and presenting on one of the following genocides.

STEP 2: Complete the Research Outline

The Research Outline document can be found on the Gobuty website. This document will ask you to research and understand the country in which this genocide occurred, examining the context for the genocidal event. This outline will then ask you to analyze the genocide through the lens of the pyramid of hate.

EACH RESPONSE IN THE OUTLINE SHOULD BE MINIMUM 1 PARAGRAPH. NO DIRECT QUOTES. PARAPHRASE INFORMATION FROM THE TEXT YOU READ. ANY PLAGIARISM WILL BE MET WITH AN AUTOMATIC ZERO FOR THIS WHOLE PART OF THE PROJECT

You will also analyze the project through the lens of international responses and legacy.

Responses: Individuals, organizations, countries, and international coalitions have responded to genocide and crimes against humanity in a range of ways. Some actions were helpful; others were not. Understanding when and how different responses were tried, what they achieved, and where they failed can improve response in the future.

1. Legacy: What happened to the survivors/ perpetrators afterwards? The effects of genocide do not end when violence stops. Survivors live with trauma and loss; infrastructure and institutions must be rebuilt; and, too often, related violence occurs in a new location.

Research Requirements:

1. You must have a total of six (6) sources
2. You may use encyclopedias, but you may NOT use WIKIPEDIA (not reliable, accurate info.)
3. Use only credible sources
4. 4 of your sources MUST come from the school library research engine https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/1124
5. Your sources MUST be cited in the MLA format. Use the following tool to create your citations http://secondary.oslis.org/cite-sources/mla-secondary-citation

STEP 3: Complete Your Presentation

Your presentation will be 10-15 mins long and must be formatted to answer the following questions:

1. Country Background: What is the name of your country? Where is it located geographically? What was the population and ethnic makeup of the country at the time of the genocide? (2-3 slides)
2. What minority was affected by the genocide? Give background on cultural differences between genocide perpetrators and the minority the genocide was committed against (1-2 slides)

3. 6 stages of Genocide. Examine how your genocide fits into each part of the genocide pyramid (Dehumanization, Organization, Polarization, Identification, Extermination, Denial) 1 slide each

4. International Response: How did the international community respond to this genocide? What did they do to intervene and support those who were under attach? (1-2 slides)

5. Legacy: What happened to the country after the Genocide? Have the communities reconciled (made up)? Where those who committed the Genocide ever held accountable for their actions? Was the country ever rebuilt? Etc

EACH SLIDE MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE PICTURE AND SHOULD HAVE NO MORE THAN 2 SENTENCES OF TEXT.

For tips on what makes an effective slideshow see the below link

http://gethelp.library.upenn.edu/workshops/biomed/ppt/dodont.html

STEP 4: Present and Grade Other Presenters

Your Group will present your research findings to your class. They (and I) will grade your project according to the assignment rubric

Outline and Works Cited page in MLA format will count as 1 project grade. Presentation will count as 1 project grade. 2 grades total.