

Voices from the Resistance

Daring to Resist

Introduction

Too often, people think of resistance as simply picking up a gun. During the Holocaust, women used a variety of ways to resist oppression. In this unit, students will meet women resisters and discover the range of strategies they employed in order to survive.

Methodology

Develop a working definition of resistance. Read pages 221-29 in *Mothers, Sisters, Resisters* and pages 171-74 in *Women in the Holocaust* to help with the definition.

Materials

The unit includes the following readings: “Living on the Aryan Side in Poland: Gender, Passing, and the Nature of Resistance” by Lenore J. Weitzman, from *Women in the Holocaust*; edited by Dalia Ofer and Lenore Weitzman; “Women Among the Forest Partisans,” by Nechama Tec from *Women in the Holocaust*; and “Resisters: Aida Brydbord,” from *Mothers, Sisters, Resisters*, edited by Brana Gurewitsch; and the film *Daring to Resist*, directed by Martha Lubell and Barbara Attie.

Vocabulary List

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| 1. Anti-Semitism | 7. Identity papers |
| 2. Curfew | 8. Liberation |
| 3. Death camp | 9. Palestine |
| 4. Displaced person | 10. Public ledger |

5. Ghetto

11. Transit camp

6. Nazi

12. Underground

Discussion Questions

- How were the women featured in the reading and film different from one another?
- What strengths did they bring with them?
- Did luck play a part? Did they receive any help/support?
- What part does gender play in their survival or experiences?

Teacher's Guide for *Daring to Resist*

Teachers can visit the PBS website www.pbs.org/daringtoresist to find a Teacher's Guide with suggested classroom activities related to the film.