

Discussion Questions – Session 1

What effect does the Shoah have on our identity as Jews?

If Jews were indeed led like sheep to the slaughter," what effect does this have on how we view Judaism and the Jewish people?

Is there something in Judaism that prevents us from fighting back and from becoming "resisters?"

Can we really be proud of what happened to them?

Can we really be proud to be Jewish after the Shoah or should we be ashamed?

Victor Frankl (a psychiatrist who was an Auschwitz Survivor) in his book Man's search for Meaning uses the term "Dehumanization." What do you think he meant by this term?

Types of Resistance

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Introduction:

Perspectives on Anna Frank

Victor Frankl – Man’s Search for Meaning

Spiritual Resistance

Music

Poetry

Prayer

Painting

Drama

Study

Other examples?

Moral Resistance – attempting to save the life of another or ease his/her suffering

Jews – Righteous Gentiles

Physical or Active Resistance

a. Individual acts

b. Organized acts

Warsaw Ghetto

Treblinka

Factors which made Resistance Difficult

1. **food** _____
2. **shelter** _____
3. **training** _____

4. _____disease_____
5. _____communication_____
6. _____illusions_____
7. _____dehumanization_____
8. _____weapons_____
9. **Jews not suited to be in the woods and to be partisans _____**
10. _____religion – wait for the messiah – optimistic fatalism – ani
maamim
11. **inability to separate families**
12. _____lack of a patron
_____others_____