

Ryan Winder

Countless different religions, faiths, ethnicities and visual minorities were affected by the Holocaust. The lives and the people that ended them have sent a mental ripple through the lives of the generations that surpassed them and even to the present day the constant reminder of the immeasurable physical and mental torture the victims of the Nazis wrath had to heroically face and sadly pass, haunts us. It is important beyond measure to not only remember and grieve the Holocaust but to also understand it and learn from it. We must not just remember what happened but carry the thought, and put the heroic ideologies of everyone who fought against it, to use. We must not just ask for it to never happen again but also know why it must not and realise what effort we must put in for us all to know that this was not just a one off and wasn't just some kind of accident, this happened because of deep strands of thought in everyone's minds that hadn't just been there for centuries but also had never been challenged. The anti-Semitic ideas had always been there and it only took one man, and what were just thoughts and ideologies, to become a reality.

The problem with most people's views on the Holocaust is that they only see the tip of the iceberg. They don't see the years and years of anti-Semitic propaganda and ideas that had been passed down through family to family. They don't see the hatred of Jews throughout Europe and really the world, decades and centuries leading up to 1941. These ideas are never challenged and almost never corrected and that is why its important that schools teach us the bigger picture. They should teach us the lives behind the lies and that's why we should not just remember the Holocaust but study it.

The lives of future generations depend on the past and us teaching it for if the past is forgotten so are lessons we learn from it, so are the values we take from it, so are the teachings, the wisdom that we can take from it. The past cannot be repeated and unless us kids learn about it then all this knowledge is wasted. All these lessons have been wasted, like plastic in the ocean. It would not be stupid, it would be pointless. Knowledge down the drain.

This is why we should remember the Holocaust. These reasons I have presented you with today, as unless our siblings, friends, teachers and parents not only tell this knowledge but teach it, then the millions of lost lives....

Have been wasted.