

How We Chose Our Topic

At the beginning of the year, we both agreed that we wanted a topic that fit not only with rights, but also responsibility. We were recommended the subject "The Dutch Resistance" and were told how during World War II these people felt it was their responsibility to protect Jewish Rights. After reading about this subject and researching it, we decided it fit well with the theme and was very interesting. We admired members of the Dutch Resistance's bravery and courageousness. Even though they were going through hard times, and if caught could be sent to a concentration camp and killed, they continued saving other people's lives, some strangers to them. These are the reasons we chose this topic.

How We Conducted Our Research

At first, we researched using secondary books and gathered background information. When we understood our project better, we began to read primary books such as diaries of members of the Dutch Resistance and Jews in Holland. We took notes and highlighted any useful quotes. Then we started searching for pictures on websites and in books and tried to find the original sources. We also looked for specific members of the Dutch Resistance online and tried to find out how they took part in the Resistance, if they were still living, and if they would be able to conduct an interview with us. We emailed a woman named Rita Admiraal who was born right after the German occupation in Holland. Her father was a part of the Resistance but died fifteen years ago. She didn't live through the experience herself, but had many useful stories from her father. After that, we conducted three more interviews; with Ed Lessing, a member of the Dutch Resistance, George Cassutto, the son of Jewish parents who lived in Holland during the occupation, and Louis Lawrance-Israels, who was a Jew living in Holland. We also watched numerous oral histories from people who were a part of the Dutch Resistance. We continued reading primary sources, analyzing our work, finding pictures, and taking notes.

How We Selected Our Presentation Category And Created Our Project

We both decided we wanted a presentation where pictures could be added into it, so we didn't want to do a paper or a performance. We thought creating a website would be interesting, fun, and we could be creative with it. When we started our website, we decided on how many pages we wanted, what we wanted the pages on, and their order. After that, we split up the pages so we had an equal amount and started writing. When we were finished, we added pictures, videos, and started designing our website. After this, we added finishing touches and got it ready for competition.

How Are Topic Relates To The Theme

Our topic, The Dutch Underground, relates to the theme Rights And responsibility. It takes place during World War II when the Nazis were taking over Europe. During World War II, Hitler violated

all Jewish rights and then began sending Jews to concentration camps where they would be killed. When Germany took over Holland, many people secretly formed a resistance group. After seeing their friends and family being taken away to camps, the resistance had to do something about it. They made a secret underground network which found homes for the Jews, sent ration cards, provided food for many Jews in hiding, and made fake identification cards. The Dutch Resistance felt it was their responsibility to save Jews and protect their rights.