

The background of the slide features a blurred image of several hands raised in the air, set against a soft, multi-colored gradient of yellow, green, and pink. This visual metaphor suggests a crowd or a group of people participating in a collective action or protest.

# The Holocaust

ESSENTIAL QUESTION: What choices do people make that allow collective violence do happen?

# TEKS and Objectives

**We will...**

**(22D) identify** examples of genocide, including the Holocaust...

**I will...**

- **Analyze** children's poetry written during the Holocaust in order to understand the Jewish experience

# Important Vocabulary

- Genocide: an effort to murder an entire people or nationality
- Holocaust: the attempted genocide of European Jews during World War II



# Nazis Target European Jews



- The Final Solution
  - Hitler's plan to execute all European Jews
  - At first, Jews were machine gunned next to open trenches they were forced to dig themselves or gassed in trucks
- Concentration Camps
  - Built all over Europe
  - Jews sent in cramped railroad cattle cars
  - Inmates subjected to inhumane conditions
  - Most victims killed with poison gas; bodies burned in large ovens
  - Some spared to work of running camp

# Infamous Concentration Camps

- Auschwitz
  - One of the largest concentration camps
  - Located in Poland
  - 3 Main camps: administrative center, death camp, and labor camp
- Terezin
  - Transit camp for Czech Jews
  - Originally designated as "model community" (propaganda)
  - Promoted a rich cultural life: lectures, recitals, poetry readings, concerts



# WWII Refugee Crisis



- Heightened Security Concerns
  - Fear that Nazi spies could be smuggled as refugees
  - Immigration officials tightened visa policies
  - Careful vetting of applicants
- United States
  - Took in about 200,000 Jews
  - Reduced number of refugees after 1941
  - Americans did not believe rumors of genocide
  - Newspapers did not typically report on the Holocaust until after 1945

# Human Toll

- Jews Killed in WWII
  - Estimated 6 million (2/3 of European Jews)
- 6 million Other Holocaust Victims
  - Gypsies, Slavs, political prisoners, elderly, and mentally-disabled





**Hundreds of Jewish communities in Europe,**



# The Butterfly Project

Select a poem from the book, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. After analyzing the poem, decorate your butterfly using inspiration from the author. Be ready to present your poem and butterfly during the next class period.