



# Why do we learn about the HOLOCAUST?

*'We learn about the Holocaust so that we can become more human, more gentle, more caring, more compassionate, valuing every person as being of infinite worth, so precious that we know such atrocities will never happen again and the world will be a more humane place.'*



**Desmond Tutu**  
Archbishop Emeritus  
Patron of the Cape Town Holocaust Centre  
August 1999

*'First they came for the socialists and I did not speak out because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me and there was no one left to speak out for me.'*


**Pastor Martin Niemöller**,  
a member of the Confessing Church  
in Germany who was arrested and  
sent to a concentration camp in 1937.

**A study of the Holocaust will help us to understand:**

- the consequences of prejudice, racism, intolerance and discrimination
- the roles and responsibilities of individuals, groups and nations, and the consequences of the choices they make
- the consequences of human rights violations
- the results of silence, apathy and indifference to injustice and unfair treatment of others
- the fragility of democracy
- the danger of propaganda and stereotyping
- the effects of blind loyalty to a leader and peer group pressure
- the value of diversity in a pluralistic society

**The Holocaust was not an accident in history and it was not inevitable – if it happened once, it could happen again.**

**HOLOCAUST INSTITUTE**



**NEVER DOUBT  
THAT A SMALL GROUP  
OF THOUGHTFUL COMMITTED CITIZENS  
CAN CHANGE THE WORLD:  
INDEED IT'S THE ONLY THING  
THAT EVER HAS.**

**MARGARET MEAD**

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