



The Holocaust through the Eyes of Child Survivors

(total running time: 17 minutes)

Considered by the Nazis to be useless for forced labor, Jewish children were especially vulnerable during the period of Nazi persecution. Approximately one million Jewish children died during the Holocaust, most of them in death camps. Some Jewish children were able to survive because their parents helped them to hide in attics or cellars. Others pretended to be non-Jews, living on false papers with their parents or being taken in as adopted children of non-Jewish families.

In *The Holocaust through the Eyes of Child Survivors* three survivors who lived through the Holocaust as children talk about their unique childhood perspectives of that period.

First, Ann Shore (b. 1929 in Żabno, Cracow, Poland) describes hiding in a farmhouse in Poland during the war.

Second, Itka Zygmuntowicz (b. 1926 in Ciechanów, Poland) talks about her family's efforts to maintain a semblance of normal life in the Nowe Miasto ghetto in Poland.

Third, David Bergman (b. 1931 in Veliký Bockov, Czechoslovakia [as of 1991, Ukraine]) recounts his arrival at the Auschwitz concentration camp, when he managed to sneak out of the children's line into the adults' line during a selection.

Next, Ann Shore describes being stopped on the street by two German soldiers who accused her of trying to hide her Jewish armband.

Itka Zygmuntowicz recounts an instance when a friend stood up for her while other children made fun of her.

Ann Shore talks about the division between the Jewish and Christian communities in Żabno, Poland, before the war.

David Bergman describes an event in his early childhood that taught him how to cope with frightening situations.

Ann Shore recalls the affection that her family shared during the years prior to the war.

Itka Zygmuntowicz describes the last time she saw her family members before they were killed at the Auschwitz II-Birkenau death camp.

David Bergman talks about the way that he and others maintained hope while working in the Langenbielau I labor camp in Germany.

Ann Shore describes the night that German soldiers broke into her home and killed her father.

Itka Zygmuntowicz talks about her arrival at the Auschwitz II-Birkenau death camp, where she and other female prisoners were forced to undress and have their heads and bodies shaved.

Ann Shore recounts the constant fear that she and her sister experienced while living in hiding.

David Bergman describes the psychological effects of his wartime experiences later in life.

Ann Shore talks about the way that she and other Holocaust survivors avoided discussing their wartime experiences after they had been liberated.

Finally, Itka Zygmuntowicz talks about the hardship of seeing people she loved suffer during the war.