RATIONALE:

In its curriculum guide for grades 9-12, the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust and Genocide Education asks the question, "What does the mandate require?" The answers direct us to teach tolerance, encourage a depth of conscience in our pupils, and provide a focus of personal responsibility against prejudice of any sort. The Commission also asks us to assure that students grasp the consequences of ignoring those who hate. The sum of those ideals leads us to prepare a response to people or organizations that would question the authenticity of the Holocaust.

This quick reference guideline for dealing with questions about Holocaust denial supports the classroom teacher's approach to applying the lessons of the Holocaust and other genocides while meeting the New Jersey core curriculum standards for social studies. It should hopefully promote spontaneous discussion fueled by the facts of settled history surrounding the occurrence of the Holocaust. Folded into lessons designed to teach tolerance, recognize prejudice, or preclude bigotry, it should help students synthesize historical facts and interpretations to reach personal conclusions about significant historical events (6.3.13).

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

A Brief History of Holocaust Denial:
http://frank.mtsu.edu/~baustin/denhist.htm

How the Holocaust History Project Addresses Holocaust-denial:
www.holocaust-history.org/denial/

Lesson Plans Focused on Holocaust Denial:

The Skeptic's Dictionary:
http://skeptlc.com/holocaustdenial.html

The Techniques of Holocaust Denial:
www.nizkor.org/features/techniques-of-denial/

The Anti-Defamation League:
http://www.adl.org/holocaust/origins.asp

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum:
www.ushmm.org/research/library/weblinks/?content=holocaust_denial

New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education:
www.state.nj.us/njded/holocaust

Email: holocaust@doe.state.nj.us

A RESPONSE RESOURCE FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS:

FIELDING COMMON QUESTIONS RELATED TO HOLOCAUST DENIAL, THE VERACITY OF HOLOCAUST HISTORY, AND THE ORIGIN OF & MOTIVATION BEHIND THE DENIER MOVEMENT.

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