

WHEN  
HUMANITY  
**FAILS** toolbox

**TAKE AWAY:**

WHAT DO I DO NOW? PART 1

**EVALUATION:**

**WHO AM I?**

TAKE AWAY:  
EVALUATION:  
**WHO AM I?**

WHAT DO I DO NOW? PART 1

DISCUSSION:

A most common reaction to the atrocities of the Holocaust or of any violence committed by human beings against other human beings is:

1. How could one group of people be capable of committing such crimes against humanity?
2. How could so many individuals perpetrate these acts against innocent others?

# What do I do now?

part 1

As we reflect upon these larger theoretical questions, we can then begin to contemplate the role we play through our responses to contemporary injustices; both those that occur before our own eyes, as well as those that we hear and read about through global media.

One way to understand the role we play (and the role we can play) is by performing a personal assessment to better understand one's personal profile of strengths and weaknesses. Our personal profile can help us be more mindful of our susceptibility to prejudice, or acceptance of others and/or our tendency towards action or inaction.

By reaching out to others, being more tolerant, communicating and becoming more forgiving, it is less likely to hate another human to the point of discrimination.

# Check the traits that best describe you.

Positive Traits:	Negative Traits:
<input type="checkbox"/> I am caring and think about others	<input type="checkbox"/> I tend to look out for myself before looking out for others
<input type="checkbox"/> I am empathetic towards others	<input type="checkbox"/> I don't always recognize other people's hardships
<input type="checkbox"/> I am forgiving	<input type="checkbox"/> I tend to hold onto people's mistakes
<input type="checkbox"/> I am honest and others can trust me	<input type="checkbox"/> I am not trustworthy
<input type="checkbox"/> I am tolerant of other's opinions and feelings	<input type="checkbox"/> I have trouble seeing the value of other people's opinions
<input type="checkbox"/> I accept people's differences	<input type="checkbox"/> I am uncomfortable with ideas or people that are different than me
<input type="checkbox"/> I can make moral decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> I am not always sure about what is the moral decision
<input type="checkbox"/> I make decisions for myself based on my own values	<input type="checkbox"/> I make decisions with my peer group
<input type="checkbox"/> I am concerned with the well-being and dignity of others	<input type="checkbox"/> I make sure to look out for myself
<input type="checkbox"/> I communicate well with others	<input type="checkbox"/> People seem to misunderstand or overreact to my feelings and opinions
<input type="checkbox"/> I am reliable and dependable	<input type="checkbox"/> I have good intentions but don't always follow through
<input type="checkbox"/> I recognize that "nobody is perfect"	<input type="checkbox"/> I need to be more forgiving of other people's imperfections

# What do I do now?

part 1

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I recognize when something is unjust and am not afraid to do something about it | <input type="checkbox"/> I am uncomfortable going against my peers or authority       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a good leader and recognize when my leadership is needed                   | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't recognize my ability to be a leader and a role model |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have a good sense of values and recognize right from wrong                    | <input type="checkbox"/> I sometimes get caught up in moral dilemmas                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have an upbeat positive attitude  | <input type="checkbox"/> I tend to focus on challenges                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I strive for personal growth and improvement                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> I accept who I am  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am proud of who I am and what I represent                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> There are things about me that I am ashamed of               |

## DISCUSSION:

List the words that someone might use to describe you.

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Now list the words that you would want someone to use to describe who you are and what you represent.

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Is there a difference in these lists?

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Which of your characteristics are you most proud of?

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Which would you like to improve?

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# What do I do now?

part 1

HOW SOMEONE ELSE WOULD DESCRIBE ME:	HOW <i>I WANT</i> SOMEONE ELSE TO DESCRIBE ME:

## **THE POWER OF CHOICES AND RESPONSIBILITY:**

Be accountable and take responsibility for your choices.

Be conscious and informed when making a choice.

Be aware of your attitude, your point of view, your frame of mind, and outlook on life.

### **ACTIVITY:**

Create your own list of RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES.

(See examples below)

At any age, people love to feel entitled to their rights and freedoms in personal and communal relationships. But implicit to every “right” comes effort and responsibility.

One’s rights and responsibilities can be applied to any or all of the following areas of one’s life:

1. A person’s relationship with one’s self
2. A person’s relationship to family
3. A person’s relationship to community (local and/or global)





# What do I do now?

I HAVE A RIGHT TO...	I HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO....
<i>Choose anything that I want to eat</i>	<i>Keep my body healthy and strong</i>
<i>Educational and social opportunities irrespective of my race or my religion</i>	<i>Treat others equally without discriminating by race or religion</i>
<i>Sit at any of the tables available to me in my cafeteria</i>	<i>Welcome others who may feel left out</i>
<i>Disagree with others</i>	<i>Be civil, irrespective of differences of opinion</i>

## DISCUSSION:

Think about the rights that you listed above and how your responsibilities make you the individual who represents a unique you.

**IMAGINE HOW A PERSON FEELS WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN, ALL OF HIS RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES ARE LEGALLY STRIPPED AWAY.**



- Have you ever been in a situation where something was unjustly taken away from you?
- How did you get it back?
- Apply this feeling to the Holocaust period. What was different in the situation of the Jews of Europe?



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