Dear Children of the Future:

My name is Ida Loeffler. I came to the Kansas City area in the year 1955 or 1956 because my husband had three aunts and some cousins in Kansas City. Since we had lost our whole family we thought maybe we would go. Our oldest aunt, she wanted us to come because she couldn’t bring her sister here to the United States and she felt kind of guilty, so we were all that was left after the war and she wanted us.

My proudest accomplishments since coming to the United States are not so special – we built ourselves up from complete nothing and on our own. Nobody helped us, only our aunt helped us when we lived with her for our first four months.

The Midwest Center for Holocaust Education is important for Kansas City because it is important to never forget. During the war I promised to myself, if I survive, I’m going to have to tell everybody what is happening – what is happening to us. Because it is impossible to believe that Nazis, the German people, the most advanced people at the time, the most intelligent people, could do something so terrible to other people.

From studying the Holocaust, you should learn that it should never happen again. Every human being who went through this will tell you this. This is something impossible, myself, it is hard to believe a human person could get through and survive.

My message for you, our future generation, is sometimes too much education goes to destruction, but get education for healing people, for how to live, for how to improve the world, and for how to improve the economy. That kind of message is my message for people.

Very truly,

Ida Loeffler
Kracow, Poland
April 28, 1923