

White Rose Student Essay Contest

**OPEN TO 8TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS IN 112 COUNTIES
IN EASTERN KANSAS AND WESTERN MISSOURI**



2015-2016 Theme:

Propaganda



Propaganda is the utilization of a message to sway opinion – be that in the form of advertising a product or selling a political message. In 21st century America, the word *propaganda* carries a connotation that makes us uneasy. We equate it with manipulation for negative purposes.

During the Nazi period, propaganda was used for a variety of purposes ranging from electioneering to preparing the highly integrated German society to view their own neighbors as inferior beings worthy of exclusion and, eventually, annihilation.

RESEARCH

Describe the goals and methods of Nazi anti-Jewish propaganda between 1933-1945. Explain how that propaganda impacted the life of one Jewish person or family during the Holocaust.

REFLECTION

American philosopher Eric Hoffer said, “Propaganda does not deceive people; it merely helps them to deceive themselves.” Based on your research, do you agree with this thought? Why or why not?

Postmark entry deadline – Tuesday, March 31, 2016

For complete details, including required sources for student research, criteria, entry forms, and recommended teaching approaches, visit

mchekc.org/WhiteRoseStudentEssayContest