

NORBERT LIPSCHUETZ

Dear Children of the Future:

My name is Norbert Lipschuetz and I came to the U.S. when I was 25 with my wife and baby. After a 27 hour journey from Munich to New York, we found a priest who helped us get to a Jewish organization. The organization gave us \$20 and told us we needed to go to Nebraska. We were able to find some generous people along our journey who gave us food. When we got to Lincoln, the Federation met us and gave us an apartment and some food to eat. They gave us money for the first week. I was able to lead the services at the synagogue for pay. I got a job at very low pay. I was glad to leave and go to Kansas City.

My proudest accomplishment since coming to the United States is raising my four children. I have a son who was in Vietnam and recently retired as a police officer. My other son is a manager of a store. I have two daughters. I have eight grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Only one of my children married someone who was Jewish. The sense of Judaism has been lost in my children and grandchildren. I believe this is because I didn't talk about my experiences in the Holocaust.

I am involved in MCHE because there aren't many survivors left and I don't have hope that it will be a part of history – only in books. I regret that I didn't talk about my experiences with my own kids. There is not as much interest in the Holocaust and I want people to know the stories. If you weren't there, you can't fathom what happened. I am often asked if I think it could happen again and I do. The Jews are blamed for so many things.

From studying the Holocaust, you should understand that it happened and understand the events that led up to the Holocaust. It is important to study what led up to it more than anything else. I want people to believe it really happened and it could possibly happen again – not only to the Jewish people, but to other groups. Something should be done to make the world a better place.

Very truly,

Norbert N. Lipschuetz
Munich, Germany
June 8, 1925